

**YOU SAID  
WE'RE DOING**

AGENDA ITEM **10**



# South Area Board

## Neighbourhood Governance Progress Report: July – September 2015

**Date:** 11 November 2015

**Name of Chair:** Councillor Mohammed Farooq

**Reporting Officer:** Shohir Uddin

**(On behalf of the South Luton Partnership Group)**

This report gives an overview of progress on community priorities for the south of Luton agreed with local people, councillors, and council partners as part of the 'Your Say, Your Way' programme.



### Cohen's Yard - fun day brings community together in Dallow.

Dallow was a hive of activity on the weekend of 25 July as hundreds of local residents came together for a free family event.

Attended by residents from different communities and backgrounds, the 'Cohen's Yard Fun Day' included a bouncy castle, rodeo bull, children's entertainer, archery, entertainment, and games for all the family.

The Cohen's Yard project was set up following the recent 'drug action day' to address local community priority issues in the Dallow neighbourhood. The project is led by Medina Mosque and the All Saints Church; in partnership with Luton Borough Council, Grassroots Programme, Building Blocks, the children's centre and Beech Hill Methodist Church.

The Near Neighbours funded project, which aims to inspire the local community to become active and help resolve community priority issues in the neighbourhood, has also included a door-to-door consultation carried out by volunteers, cleaning and painting the park's play equipment, litter picking and shrub planting.



### Really Wild Club

The Really Wild Club delivers a wide range of activities through an ongoing programme based at Surrey Street Primary School. **Here's a roundup of what the club have been delivering over the summer;**

- On the 23 May the Really Wild Club, together with Growing and Environmental Club, held a Family Action Day. Around 58 parents, children and siblings attended focus sessions on building mini beast homes in the woodlands, identifying plants and flowers, growing and tasting fruits and vegetables, foraging and building dens.
- On the 12 June the club also organised the EYFS Wild Woodland Day and 65 children enjoyed the outdoor learning day, based on the theme of 'Going on a Bear Hunt'. This was followed by a camping event which included outdoor cooking, animal tracking, campfires, a talent show, tug of war, archery, midnight walks, bush tucker trials, and outdoor breakfast cooking and was attended by 25 children.
- Another Family Action day was held on 12 September, with more than 50 parents and children attending on the day. The event brought families together and helped break down some of the barriers between the school and families.

Overall the events were attended by more than 220 local families from within the school catchment area.



### Farley Junior Youth Club

Members of the Farley Junior Youth Club took part in a Nature Walk to Winsdon Hill, led by the environmental charity, Groundwork. The children enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the local wildlife, whilst having lots of fun!

Activities included den building, collecting and identifying bugs, learning about ways to look after the natural environment, learning about the history of the Farley area and a healthy picnic. The project was funded by 'Your Say, Your Way' and is part of the wider youth club project, which is looking to encourage healthier eating, activity and life choices.



# Health and wellbeing



## Live Well Luton

Live Well Luton's new stop smoking campaign encourages smokers to find out the shocking truth about the age of their lungs, with the help of a smartphone app. The Lungclock app. can determine how much smoking has aged a person's lungs and asks users to submit key pieces of information such as their age, how much they smoke a day and how long they have smoked for. The app also uses an innovative tool which

requires the user to breathe into their phone's microphone as part of the measurement. As well as encouraging people to stop smoking, the Lungclock app will also be useful to people who are in the process of quitting as they will be able to use it to see how their lung age is improving.

**To get in touch with Live Well Luton about the free stop smoking support on offer, visit [www.livewell-luton.org.uk](http://www.livewell-luton.org.uk) or call 01582 757635.**

Pictured: Live Well Luton smoking cessation advisor Nicola Swinden in St. Georges Square promoting the Lung Age app.

## Update from the Luton CCG

Following a major procurement exercise last year, East London NHS Foundation Trust (ELFT) have taken over as the new provider of mental health services for adults and children from South Essex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SEPT). This has included the transfer of SEPT staff and premises to ELFT. Throughout this period of transition, the CCG has continued to work with the Mental

Health Reference Group, made up of members of the public, to keep them informed of the progress. ELFT have given their commitment to work with both patients and members of the public to continue to improve and develop services focussed on the needs of local people.

The CCG was also looking to establish a new community physical health service for adults and children. Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (CCS) will continue for two years as the provider in Luton and this Autumn we'll consider



## Clinical Commissioning Group

options for future service development or procurement, for the period beyond April 2017.

The procurement also identified Virgin Care as providers of the Intermediate Care Service, which was previously provided by CCS. Handover of this service was successful and Virgin Care continues to make improvements to this service for its patients.

## Four GP Practice Contracts Consultation

NHS England and the CCG will be undertaking a Public Consultation on the future of four GP practices in Luton this Autumn. The GP contracts are coming to an end and there are a number of options which could improve the availability and quality of GP services. These options will be set out in the consultation. The practices involved are:

1. Town Centre Practice
2. Moakes Medical Centre
3. Whipperley Medical Centre
4. Sundon Park Health Centre



## Urgent Care Strategy

In the coming year the CCG will be implementing elements of the Urgent Care Strategy, which will include improving and simplifying the way in which people in Luton gain access to urgent medical help. To this end, we will soon be seeking your views on what elements of the current services have worked well for you and also what you think could be improved.

**If you wish to share your views now, you can do so by emailing [contactus@lutonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:contactus@lutonccg.nhs.uk) – please mark your email as Urgent Care feedback.**

## Financial Challenge

The most significant challenge for the CCG in the year ahead is managing the financial deficit, which is currently in excess of £20 million. Much work is being undertaken to address the shortfall, which has been caused by a number of different factors; high demand on services at the L&D Hospital, historical under-funding of health for the people of Luton and over spend in some areas such as mental health. Concise action plans are in place to bring Luton CCG finances back on track. At present we will spend within our means in 2016/17 and over the following two years we will pay back the deficit we have built up. This means that if we continue to achieve our current financial plans we will report a financial surplus by the end of 2018/19.

## Better Care Teams – Frail & Elderly

Patients in Luton are already benefiting from the new way their care is planned through the Better Care teams. The teams support GPs to focus on more proactive care and support for frail and elderly patients with the remaining two clusters due to roll-out this approach soon. The aim of this approach is that frail and elderly patients are kept well and at home (including if this is a care or nursing home) reducing the need for hospital admission leading to longer, healthier and more independent lives. We will provide more information on the implementation of this new approach as it progresses.



# Stronger and Safer Communities

## Community Cohesion in Luton

June to September is a very busy time for community cohesion in Luton. A big thank you to everyone who helped sponsor, organise or participate in any or all events!



## Archbishop of Canterbury visits Luton

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby visited Luton in June as part of a tour of the Diocese of St Albans. The theme of the visit centred on transforming communities and reconciliation.

The Archbishop of Canterbury spent time at St Mary's Church and Luton Mall, accompanied by members of the Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy, before arriving at the Town Hall for a lunchtime reception.

The Archbishop then gave a short address, followed by a question and answer session with guests that included Mayor of Luton Cllr Dave Taylor, Leader of the Council Cllr Hazel Simmons, Chief Executive Trevor Holden and representatives from local communities. The Archbishop also took the opportunity to sign a community petition.

## Tribute to victims of Tunisia attack

A large crowd gathered outside the Town Hall to pay tribute to the victims of the terrorist attack in Tunisia.

The event was organised by LCOF (Luton Council of Faith's)

and Council representatives including the Chief Executive, Mayor and Deputy Mayor joined Luton community leaders to observe a minute's silence in tribute to those killed in the attack at the resort of Sousse.

A spokesperson for LCOF explained: "We strongly condemn such actions of mindless violence. While such extremist minorities continue to stir up hatred, division and violence, we call upon the vast majority of peace loving people from across different faiths and also those with no particular faith affiliation, to reflect and act together on our mutual obligations for peaceful co-existence."

A 'Book of Condolence' was set up by the Council in the Town Hall lobby for members of the public to sign and Luton's involvement in the tributes was reported nationally by the BBC.



## 7/7 victims remembered

On 7/7/15 Luton's communities joined together in commemoration of those killed in the bombings in London 10 years ago.

Members of the Christian and Muslim communities, in association with Luton in Harmony, staged an event that started in St George's Square before proceeding up to Market Hill.

Event organisers Peter Adams and Rehana Faisal described the event as "a positive statement about our future by people from different communities walking together in harmony here in Luton".

Rehana Faisal, from the Sunni Council, spoke to the crowd on the day. Below is a shortened excerpt from her speech.

"On the 7th of July 2005, 52 people were murdered. All of them were innocent victims of hate. I thought long and hard about what I would talk to you about. We spend so much time, too much time, talking about the killers. I want to talk about some of the victims of that awful day, about who they were and how we best honour their memories.

Let me start by telling you about Ojara Ikeagwu, she was a mum of 3 from right here in Luton. Then there was Behnaz Mozakka who worked at Great Ormond Street hospital. Attique Sharifi was just 24 years old, he was an Afghani Muslim, whose parents were both killed when he was a teenager. Miriam Hyman raised money in her spare time for a cancer charity.

So, how do we truly honour these people? These loving, caring and compassionate people. Think of the people who you have met, who have walked side by side with you. Think of Attique, who came to the UK with so much hope. Think of our local children, I am sure that is what Ojara and Behnaz would have done. Come together as a community, in a way Miriam would have wanted us to. That would be a fitting memorial; that is the best way to honour all of the people that we have lost-not just 10 years ago in London, but globally, before then, and sadly after.

Let's continue to Walk Together."



# Stronger and Safer Communities



## 'Big Iftar'

Luton hosted a major event to help increase peoples understanding of Islam on the 10 July.

The event, which coincided with the daily breaking of the Muslim fast during the holy month of Ramadan, was well attended by people from many different communities. There were presentations from the Mayor of Luton Cllr Dave Taylor and a number of local faith groups and charities including Churches Together, Lewsey Farm Masjid and Discover Islam. To coincide with the breaking of the fast, those who attended then shared a meal together.

The theme of the event was 'ensuring no-one in Luton goes hungry' and people were encouraged to donate non-perishable food items to the Luton Foodbank.

The 'Big Iftar' was organised by Luton in Harmony, Inspire FM, Chaul End Children's Center, LBC, Bedfordshire Police, Luton Cultural Services Trust and many other community partners. Food for the 'Big Iftar' was sponsored by a number of Luton companies including Venue Central, Buffalo Grill, Chaul End Children's Centre, Nasons, Halifax Foods, Nadeem Plaza and Euro Halal.



## Flying Start 2014-2024: Luton's Pregnancy to Five Strategy

Flying Start is Luton's prevention and early help strategy, supporting babies and young children from pregnancy to five. It has been developed in partnership with parents, community representatives and local services.

The aim of the strategy is to ensure that babies are given the 'best start in life', delivering services that will improve their communication and language skills, support healthy bonding between parents and young children and encourage healthy diet and lifestyles for young children and their families.

Flying Start also works with young people, our parents of the future. Projects with this group have included;

- Training Luton's children's workforce in **Five to Thrive**, an approach to support parents to use the five simple techniques; Respond, Cuddle, Relax, Play and Talk. So far over 350 staff have been trained and are delivering these key messages to parents;
- Developing the **Flying Start Worker model** – providing early support for families during pregnancy, working with community midwives, and integrating Flying Start Workers with health visitors and children centre partners;
- Piloting the **Bumps, Babies and Toddlers Plus** drop-in clinic in Park Town: midwives, health visitors and children centre staff working together with a Flying Start Worker to deliver one-stop support for parents;
- Implementing the **Sign 4 Little Talkers, Sign 4 Big Feelings and Baby Babble** interventions and expanding the **Bump to Babe** antenatal parenting programme across Luton.

Flying Start is also committed to harnessing the skills and passion of volunteers to make a real difference to communities. Volunteers are currently being recruited to deliver projects including;



- Communication and language development: volunteers deliver key messages to parents about communication and language development in babies and toddlers;
- Supporting healthy lifestyles: volunteers encourage and support parents in leisure activities with their children;
- Peer-to-peer support for fathers.

**Flying Start volunteers can gain accredited qualifications and are fully supported. For information about our work and volunteering opportunities, visit our website [www.flyingstartluton.com](http://www.flyingstartluton.com)**





# Environment and Economy

## Community Learning Fund

Luton Adult Learning and The Learning Partnership worked together to form the Community Learning Fund which, during 2014-15, provided funding to 20 local projects.

The fund was launched to support and encourage Voluntary, Community, Third sector and Not For Profit organisations to deliver innovative learning that supports disadvantaged adults. It also aims to encourage organisations to address key local priorities and meet the purpose of the Community Learning fund which is to;

- Maximise access to community learning for adults, bringing new opportunities and improving lives, whatever people's circumstances
- Promote social renewal by bringing local communities together to experience the joy of learning and the pride that comes with achievement
- Maximise the impact of community

learning on the social and economic well-being of individuals, families and communities.

Luton Adult Learning have partnered with a number of local organisations including;

- Luton Town Football Club, who successfully delivered a coaching programme to provide coaches to support local community grass roots sports sessions.
- NOAH, who provided learning opportunities to support people who were out of work or homeless to develop their computer, cookery and home maintenance skills.
- The Luton Community Health Forum who empowered women to "negotiate their way to better health," focusing on health related issues and accessing services.
- Luton Mind, provided sessions to encourage and develop interpersonal

skills, assertiveness and confidence building, lifestyle balance, managing stress, depression and anxiety, setting goals, communications skills, diet, exercise and sleep management and motivational skills.

- Marsh Farm Outreach who delivered learning to a number of local unemployed residents from the Marsh Farm Estate. The 5 day course focused on grassroots economic development techniques, which have been developed over 15 years of working with the community to help transform Marsh Farm.

The Community Learning Fund will continue in 2015-2016.

**For more information on how to get involved, for information on the courses offered by LAL or the project work they support please visit [www.lutonacl.ac.uk](http://www.lutonacl.ac.uk), contact [clt@lutonacl.ac.uk](mailto:clt@lutonacl.ac.uk) or call 01582 490033.**

## Corporate Volunteering

In August 8 employees from the Luton-based travel provider TUI UK & Ireland gave their time at Stockwood Park gardening, weeding and laying bark.

In the same month, as part of the National Citizenship Service (NCS) programme, a group of young volunteers painted rooms at the Hat Factory giving them a much needed make over.

TUI UK & Ireland and other local businesses regularly support local community projects like this as part of Luton Borough Council's volunteer scheme.

Volunteering strengthens businesses, motivates staff and makes a real difference in communities. As well as making people feel good, volunteering has a proven record of improving employee engagement. Community-based team building events have successfully contributed to developing team cohesion, staff morale and motivation while making a substantial contribution within the community. Importantly, they are also extremely enjoyable, rewarding and satisfying.

**Please contact [volunteering@luton.gov.uk](mailto:volunteering@luton.gov.uk) for further information and current opportunities.**

## Dame Kelly Holmes Trust 'Get on track'

The Dame Kelly Holmes Trust 'Get on track' programme is for 16-25 year olds and aims to give young people the self-discipline, motivation and confidence to enhance their chances of employment.

Luton Borough Council's Community Development Service has been working with the trust and other local partners to deliver the latest programme this summer. Professional athletes Andrew Spinks (basketball) and Elizabeth Cann (badminton) also offered support throughout the course too, using their experience of competition to help motivate the young people while also sharing personal advice with them.

One young person who has gone through a massive transformation as a result of the programme is Harry Whittaker. He said: "Before the course started I was feeling lost and directionless. I needed to do something to rediscover what I had lost and luckily spotted an advert for the course on Facebook.

The course was challenging and rewarding. I had my resilience proven when placed out of my comfort zone during snowboarding and climbing. And my nerves tested when delivering a group presentation to corporate businesses.

These were once in a lifetime opportunities that I feel privileged to have had; and it's all because of this programme. I think I speak for all of the participants when I say it's not the end of our personal journeys, it is only the beginning."

The programme provided young people with the opportunity to explore potential careers across a range of industries with work experience and practice interviews.

Harry and others have gained employment following the programme, while others have signed up to further study.



# South Area Updates



## Building Blocks Family Fun day

The fun day was held on Thursday 20 August at Cohen's Yard and was very well attended by over 440 people. Fun activities included balloon modelling, face painting, magician, cheeky dog puppets, farm animals, pony rides, planting & digging and sand play. There was also information stalls, fun exercise, a BBQ and hot food.

The event provided a rare opportunity to engage with the wider community and people were able to get to know their neighbours in an outdoor space not frequently used by the community previously.

## Make Lunch Project

The Make Lunch Project ran from Monday 27 July to Friday 7 August at the Salvation Army. The project, held over lunchtime, provided a hot lunch, packed lunch and activities such as games and crafts for an average of 50-60 children per day. Through this project the Salvation Army aimed to support families facing financial hardship or those who would usually be in receipt of a free school meal.



## Stay and Play

This project provided affordable activities for 2 hours every morning and ran from 27 July to the 24 August. Young families, including 18 adults and 26 children, were encouraged to engage with activities such as craft sessions, educational and learning developmental toys and games, a reptile show and a fitness session.

## 'Inspired' by the Careers Broadcast

Inspire FM organised the Careers Broadcast, which ran from Monday 17 August until Friday 28 August. The broadcast included live GCSE and A-levels results from the local schools and colleges and the team spoke to many students who received excellent results and were excited about their future career plans.

Topics covered on the breakfast shows including "Where Next?" and "Focus on Your Future", which informed students about their available options including information about going to college, university or into employment.

The station also promoted a special weekly program called "The Right Prescription", where the presenter delivered a special career focused show with guests from various professional careers.

The show was very interactive and received an average of 10 phone calls and between 10-15 text messages / WhatsApp's each week, all of which were very well received by local parents, teachers and students.



# YOUR SAY YOUR WAY

...in South Luton

## Your Local Councillors

### Dallow Ward

Cllr Mohammed Ashraf	<a href="mailto:Mohammed.Ashraf@luton.gov.uk">Mohammed.Ashraf@luton.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Mohammed Farooq	<a href="mailto:Mohammed.Farooq@luton.gov.uk">Mohammed.Farooq@luton.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Nazia Rafiq	<a href="mailto:Nazia.Rafiq@luton.gov.uk">Nazia.Rafiq@luton.gov.uk</a>

### Farley Ward

Cllr Mahmood Hussain	<a href="mailto:Mahmood.Hussain@luton.gov.uk">Mahmood.Hussain@luton.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Sian Timoney	<a href="mailto:Sian.Timoney@luton.gov.uk">Sian.Timoney@luton.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Dave Taylor	<a href="mailto:Dave.Taylor@luton.gov.uk">Dave.Taylor@luton.gov.uk</a>

### South Ward

Cllr Amy O'Callaghan	<a href="mailto:Amy.Ocallaghan@luton.gov.uk">Amy.Ocallaghan@luton.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Paul Castleman	<a href="mailto:Paul.Castleman@luton.gov.uk">Paul.Castleman@luton.gov.uk</a>
Cllr David Agbley	<a href="mailto:david.agbley@luton.gov.uk">david.agbley@luton.gov.uk</a>

### Luton South Local Policing Team

PS Melissa Cunningham 5547 – Luton Police Station, Buxton Road, Luton

**Email:** [Melissa.Cunningham@Bedfordshire.pnn.Police.uk](mailto:Melissa.Cunningham@Bedfordshire.pnn.Police.uk)

**Web:** [www.bedfordshire.police.uk](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk)

**Call:** 101 for non emergencies

## Looking for more information?

For further information about this report or the Your Say, Your Way programme, call us on **01582 548776** or email [YourSayYourWay@Luton.gov.uk](mailto:YourSayYourWay@Luton.gov.uk)

South Area Manager:

[Shohir.Uddin@luton.gov.uk](mailto:Shohir.Uddin@luton.gov.uk)

### Upcoming events in South Luton

#### Dallow:

##### New Bumps Group

Pregnancy advice, Midwife Support and Children's Centre Staff.

Upcoming dates 4 November, 2 December, 6 January and on the first Wednesday of the month 6pm – 8pm.

Hatters Children's Centre,  
Dallow Road LU1 1LZ.

For more information please call **01582 616604** or email [info@hatterschildrenscentre.co.uk](mailto:info@hatterschildrenscentre.co.uk)

#### "Knit, Chat, Give"

Ladies of all abilities welcome!

Every Monday starting from  
2 November, 12pm – 1:30pm

Medina Mosque, Oak Road, Luton.

#### Community Allotments

Coming soon to All Saints Church, Warwick Road, Luton!

For more information on any of the above activities and on how to get involved, please contact Husna on **01582 410333** or email: [husna.nehemiah@gmail.com](mailto:husna.nehemiah@gmail.com)

#### Farley:

##### Farley Big Local's Farley Fright Night

Saturday 31 October

Blue Bell Woods, Castlecroft Road.

Tickets are available to purchase from Farley Community Centre **01582 736812**

#### Dementia awareness social event

Tuesday 17 November

The LCST team at Farley Community Centre are supporting the Farley Lunch Club to raise awareness of Dementia. The event will include an entertainer who'll be singing memorable songs from their generation and they'll also be memory boxes from the Wardown Park Museum, a War Time Fire Engine and presentation from a member of the Alzheimer's Society.

For more information please contact **01582 736812**.

#### South:

##### Lantern Parade & Christmas Event

##### Children's Christmas Party

For more information contact Park Town Community and Children's Centre on **01582 482957**.

