

**YOU SAID
WE'RE DOING**

AGENDA ITEM: 9



East Area Board

Neighbourhood Governance
Progress Report: July – September 2015

Date: 2 November 2015

Name of Chair: Councillor Alan Skepelhorn

Reporting Officer: Gary J. Roberts

(On behalf of the East Luton Partnership Group)

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



NHS
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Clinical Commissioning Group



**YOUR SAY
YOUR WAY**

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BOROUGH COUNCIL



Area East Updates

A great day had by all at the Ramridge Primary School & East Luton Community Festival

The sun was out on Saturday 27 June when around 800 people came together for the Ramridge Primary School & East Luton Community Festival. Attendees were entertained throughout the day with an array of stalls, tug-of-war competitions, sacks races, bouncy castles, Asian foods, Ramridge Community Choir and a licensed bar provided by, and in aid of, Keech Cottage.

As well as being a fun and spectacular event for the local community, the festival was also an opportunity to provide health and social information, and Alcohol Services in the Community were on hand to offer people advice and information.

If you would like to be involved in the festival next year please contact Gary Roberts, whose contact details you can find on the back page of this newsletter.



In the nicest possible way.... On your bike!

Last year Sean Manning (Community Development Coordinator) at Raynham Way Community Centre (RWCC) applied and received funding from Travel Luton for initiatives to encourage cycling

With part of the funding he has set up a 'cycle hub' at RWCC which has included new bike racks opposite the main entrance and he also intends to introduce cycling maintenance workshops for all ages.

Cycle Hubs have been introduced to increase cycling participation in Luton and it is envisaged that the RWCC hub will act as a mechanism to encourage and motivate people to get involved in cycling in a range of different ways.

Many young people are leading increasingly inactive lives, with physical activity playing little or no role in their everyday routine. By creating the Cycle Hub we hope to be a catalyst for changing perceptions towards cycling.

The goal is to encourage cycling as a customary way for people to travel and to promote the environmental and health benefits.

The new bike racks were installed at the RWCC at the end of August and will hopefully begin to encourage greater cycle use in the area, especially to and from the city centre.



New Homes for Luton brightens up local area

The award winning New Homes for Luton Housing Joint Venture includes a community contribution of £1000 from the Registered Provider (Catalyst Housing Group) for each house built in the Area. Councillors can commit the funding to specific projects that can improve the local area and address local priorities in neighbourhoods where the new homes are being developed.

One such example of a funded project includes ongoing work to improve the underpass between Hayling Drive to Someries Junior School. As well as improvements to drainage, lighting and flooring, local artist Abi Spendlove has been working with children from the school to design a mural which will transform the underpass.

The picture above shows the mural designed by the children, which reflects their experiences of living in Luton and their vision for the future.



Targeted Youth Service (TYS) update

Over the summer holidays, the TYS were out and about in parks across town and in East Luton they ran pop up youth spaces in both Stopsley Road Park and Colwell Rise Park. The pop ups enabled TYS to engage with local children and young adults and anyone attending the free sessions were invited to enjoy a

game of football, cricket or tennis with the TYS youth workers.

The sessions were organised in partnership with the Bedfordshire Fire Service and SAFE. Both organisations used the sessions to provide local young people with valuable information and advice on fire safety, and drugs and alcohol.

The TYS team would like to thank Bedfordshire Fire Service and SAFE for attending and helping the team to provide a valuable space for young people to enjoy over the summer.

The TYS team would also like to thank everyone who attended one of the Youth Spaces over the summer and they look forward to seeing and engaging with more people throughout the year.



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 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



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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 – 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





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, contact 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 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.

Area East Updates



GreenHouse Mentoring (GHM) – 'A hub in the community'

After GreenHouse mentoring (GHM) lost previous financial support, they've worked extremely hard to secure new funding to support their valuable projects.

GHM have recently been awarded a number of grants from a number of sources including;

- Children In Need - £8000
- Neighbourhood Governance 'Your Say, Your Way' funding - £1500
- Wixamtree Trust £5000
- ...and a possible grant from ASDA of £8000

GHM have also been selected as 'Charity of the year' by both Orbit (a local charitable group) and the Arcadian Women's Club. Sue Pirks is the GreenHouse Mentoring Manager, you might also know she's a wheelchair user, and in October she'll be completing a sponsored sky dive to raise money for the group. **If you would like to support GreenHouse mentoring by sponsoring Sue, please visit <http://my.give.net/GreenHouseMentoringParaUK>**

GHM developments

- The ACE Kids Club have been providing an activity and skills programme for 8-13 year olds, which has been a huge success. The programme, which takes place in a café atmosphere, mixes informal learning such as playing well in group sessions and taking part in games with training on basic social skills and dealing with anger and building self-esteem.
- Over the last six months, 41 young people attended 95 GHM sessions and as a result of the Group Mentoring Initiative, GHM can now offer support to referrals within a month of interview.
- A further 26 volunteers have been trained through the Introduction to Mentoring course.
- GHM were nominated by the University of Bedfordshire for 'Partner of the Year' and were awarded the runner up certificate.

If you are interested in the work of GHM, please contact 01582 528213.

Best of luck to the GHM team with their ongoing work for young people.



The Tent Project

The Tent project is a joint initiative between the Stopsley community, local churches, the council and Age Concern Luton. It aims to provide people with the opportunity to meet and have a cup of tea and a chat. It's a place where friends can be made, interests can be shared and support can be given when required.

Anyone and everyone is welcome to join the project, which takes place every Thursday afternoon between 2 and 4pm at St Thomas' Church Hall, Hitchin Road, Luton, LU2 7UL.

For further information please call 01582 401480.



Bank Holiday Festivities for Hart Lane Education Centre (HLEC)

One of the 4 events organised by HLEC and funded by 'Your Say, Your Way' took place on the August bank holiday. The event was a success and was attended by more than 125 people. Attendees enjoyed a wide variety of activities including a bouncy castle, face painting, henna tattoos, 5-a-side football, a quiz and tug-of-war for the young people and adults. There was also a selection of food and refreshments. Everyone who attended spoke positively of the day and said how much they had enjoyed it.

YOUR SAY YOUR WAY

...in East Luton

Your Local Councillors

Crawley Ward

Councillor Terry Keens	07809 10 03 85 terry.keens@luton.gov.uk	
Councillor James Taylor	07809 10 03 92 james.taylor@luton.gov.uk	Ward Surgeries The third Saturday of each month 10.30am to 12.30am St. Anne's Church, Crawley Green Road, Luton LU2 0QN

Round Green Ward

Councillor John Baker	07809 10 03 79 john.baker@luton.gov.uk	Ward Surgeries The third Saturday of each month 10am to 12 Noon ART's Shop, 3 Yeovil Road, Luton LU2 9EE
Councillor Irak Chowdhury	07809 10 03 80 irak.chowdhury@luton.gov.uk	Ward Surgeries Every Saturday 10am to 11.30am ART's Shop, 3 Yeovil Road, Luton LU2 9EE
Councillor Mark Rivers	07714 13 97 13 mark.rivers@luton.gov.uk	Ward Surgeries Every Saturday 10am to 11.30am ART's Shop, 3 Yeovil Road, Luton LU2 9EE

Stopsley Ward

Councillor Michael Dolling	01582 42 96 46 michael.dolling@luton.gov.uk
Councillor Meryl Dolling	07809 10 03 82 meryl.dolling@luton.gov.uk

Wigmore Ward

Councillor Peter Chapman	07892 07 36 26 peter.chapman@luton.gov.uk
Councillor Diane Moles	01582 72 32 93 diane.moles@luton.gov.uk
Councillor Alan Skepelhorn	01582 27 18 51 alan.skepelhorn@luton.gov.uk

Looking for more information?

For further information on this report or the "Your Say, Your Way" programme please call us on 01582 55 87 81 or 01582 54 69 85 or email Gary J. Roberts: gary.roberts@luton.gov.uk Web: www.luton.gov.uk

Upcoming community events in East Luton

Raynham Way Community Centre

66. Eaton Green Road,
Luton LU2 9JE

Telephone: 01582 402034

raynhamway@lutonculture.com

Pantomime Trip to see Sleeping Beauty

Saturday 12th December 2015

Age group: 7 to 12 years

Cost: £10 per head

50+ Christmas Party

Saturday 19th December 2015

2pm to 7pm

Cost: £6 per head

For more information contact
Raynham Way Community Centre

East Luton Local Policing Team

General Contact Telephone: 101

Emergencies Telephone: 999

Email: LPT.luton-east@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Web: www.bedfordshire.police.uk

