



STRONGER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

**Stronger Communities Partnership Board
Tuesday, 21 November 2017 : 13:30 – 16:30
Shaw Lane Sports Club – Griffin Suite**

Minutes

	<p>Attendees: Cllr Chris Lamb : BMBC - Councillor (Chair) Phil Hollingsworth : BMBC – Communities Service Director, Tom Smith : BMBC – Head of Service, Place Margaret Libreri : BMBC – Service Director (Children) Educ & Early Start Prev Carrie Abbott : BMBC – Service Director, Public Health Lennie Sahota : BMBC – Service Director (Adults) Social Care & Health Cllr Jenny Platts : BMBC - Cabinet Member Communities Adrian England : Healthwatch Lisa Phelan : Voluntary Action Barnsley Phil Parkes : SYHA Dave Fullen : Berneslai Homes Wendy Lowder : BMBC - Executive Director, Communities Michelle Kaye : BMBC – Housing & Welfare Service Manager Joanne Dearnley : Department of Work & Pensions Nina Sleight : BMBC – Head of Early Start, Prevention & Sufficiency</p> <p>Apologies: Cath Bedford : Barnsley CCG</p>
1.	<p>Welcome, Introductions & Apologies</p>
	<p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Apologies were received and noted from the above member.</p>
	<p>Minutes of last meeting / Action Log</p>
	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 14/08/17 were agreed as a true copy.</p> <p>Actions update from 14/02/2017 Item 2 (b) : Andrea/Michelle to discuss approaches to staff re poverty with Trade Unions – Phil Hollingsworth to raise this with Unison - Ongoing</p> <p>Item 2 : Margaret Libreri to provide data on early help referral sources for the next meeting – Action discharged</p> <p>Actions update from 15/08/2017 Item 3 : Mel Fitzpatrick to chase up representation from Delivery Groups & invite Adrian England to the Partnership Review Task & Finish Group – Action discharged.</p>

Item 4 a) : Action - Anti-Poverty Group – Margaret Libreri to identify representative from Schools Alliance - Carried forward to next meeting on 19/02/18.

Item 4 b) : Adrian England to email Carrie Abbott a copy of the Healthwatch Report re oral health – Action discharged

Item 5 : Future Model – Adult Social Care presentation to be circulated to the Partnership for dissemination to staff as required – Action discharged

Item 6 : Board Members to forward any proposed agenda items to Mel Fitzpatrick for inclusion on the forward plan – Action discharged

Item 7 : Refreshed TOR to be circulated to Partnership for feedback re remit of the Board, governance and amended membership/circulation following consideration by the Partnership Review Task & Finish Group – Action discharged

Actions update from 21/11/2017

Item 3 : Performance Framework to be developed aligned to the strategic priorities – Each delivery group has been asked to identify 10 key measures and a report will come to the next meeting for discussion around ongoing work in respect of performance measures.

Item 7 : Members to think about items for the Forward Plan

2. Universal Credit and impact of Welfare Reform

A video was presented to the meeting to show Universal Credit in action and the process to access this online. The process is simple and takes approximately 20 minutes for a single person and an hour for a couple. A homepage will be created which details all the information in respect of any claim submitted.

This fully digital service replaces 6 other benefits and only people in supported housing are not covered. In addition if people have more than 2 dependent children they must continue to claim legacy benefits but this will change in the future.

The system is digital by default and some people do struggle with this if they cannot access the internet at home. The system is available over the phone but this is more difficult. There is a Digital Champion who is in Barnsley Job Centre every working day who can help with the process and assist people improve their IT skills. There is also an appointment based service at Wombwell and Goldthorpe. The whole borough went live on 14 November.

Main issue is that there is a 6 weeks delay before people receive their money. Discussions are taking place about reducing this to 4 weeks but advances are available for up to 50% and work coaches should tell people this. An agreement is then entered into for this to be paid back over an agreed period of up to 6 months. If a person has been on previous benefit then this will be spaced over 12 months and is interest free. There are issues with people not spending the

	<p>money on rent and arrears building up with the result that private landlords are reluctant to take tenants who are claiming Universal Credit. There is an option to have the money paid direct to Landlords if there are personal budgeting issues.</p> <p>If any further information is required then members should contact joannedearnley@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or michellekaye@barnsley.gov.uk</p> <p>Cllr Lamb thanked Michelle for the very informative presentation.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Review Task & Finish</p> <p>Phil Hollingsworth reported that following the Stronger Communities Development Session in May 2017 a Task & Finish Group was set up consisting of the Delivery Group Lead Officers to discuss and formulate the next steps and priority actions to take forward the recommendations outlined in the Development Session Output Report. This report provides Board members with key actions against the agreed recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full governance review is undertaken on the partnership and its delivery infrastructure – The Group felt it was important to keep the existing delivery groups and a diagram has been produced outlining strategic, tactical and operational levels. Action: Members to approve the governance structure – Agreed. • Stronger Communities Partnership to have a clear brand – A logo has been developed and brought to the meeting for approval. This will appear on all templates. Action: Members to agree to adopt the logo – Agreed • Performance Framework to be developed aligned to the strategic priorities – Each delivery group has been asked to identify 10 key measures and a report will come to the next meeting for discussion around ongoing work in respect of performance measures. Action: Agenda item for next meeting 19/02/18 • Delivery Groups to review Delivery Plans – The Stronger Community Partnership now has a tighter focus and each delivery group clear leads. A consistent format for plans is now in place to ensure there is no overlap between the delivery groups. • Develop a Whole System Early Help Workforce Development Programme - Each delivery group plan contains aspects of workforce development but the proposed workshop had to be cancelled. • Financial Implications – More detail in the future • Alignment to the Early Help Strategy – More detail in the future <p>Nine Sleight agreed with elements of workforce development being included in each delivery group and pointed out that the reporting mechanism and highlight reports should also be streamlined.</p>

	<p>Cllr Platts confirmed that the Anti Poverty Group have looked at workforce delivery and any overlaps in respect of the other delivery groups with the result that priorities have been reduced. She also welcomed the work done by Joanne Dearnley and Michelle Kaye which is important to their group.</p> <p>Wendy Lowder stated she needed more clarity re the relationship between Stronger Communities and TEG. Further discussions were needed around accountability and the relationship with the Health & Wellbeing Board re duplication.</p> <p>Cllr Lamb asked whether the workshop was going to be reconvened and it was confirmed that this will be re-arranged once the relevant member of staff returns to work.</p> <p>All members agreed that the governance structure and logo should be adopted. Other recommendations are also agreed.</p>
4,	Early Help Referrals & Demand Overview
	<p>Nina Sleight presented a report re strategic performance, performance indicators plus distance travelled and the difference made to families. The report details the range of activity and which agencies are working on what plus any areas of concern. There has been a continued increase in early help activity over the last 12 months which prevents problems from escalating and helps families to be resilient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key agencies are family centres and primary schools in respect of early help initiators. • One concern raised is a tendency for initiation to decrease in school holiday periods. However families still meet and are supported. • Looking at re-referrals into the early help system within a 12 month period. Will look at each case and why these are coming back in. • The least deprived area is Penistone and most deprived Dearne North. Concern raised around Darfield and Dearne South re low number of initiations. • Early help networks have been launched for all Area Councils so that stakeholders can look at data in their area and decide how they can work together to improve things. People are being encouraged to participate. The networks have been promoted online and with the partnership and Bob Dyson, Chair of Safeguarding Board, has attended. • Early help training is the key to ensuring all agencies are aware of their responsibilities and access additional support. Partners are encouraged to ensure that key staff are undertaking early help training. • Data around initiation by source - partners have agreed to do deep dive into their area. Secondary schools have been identified as not having enough involvement and this has formed part of the action plan moving forward. Detailed actions are in the Barnsley Alliance Plan. Public Health Nursing Service is also doing a deep dive and the intention is to now work

	<p>closely with them. Maternity Services are also being considered.</p> <p>Cllr Platts recognised that St Helens is high on the scale which means the level of deprivation is high but this also indicates that universal services are operating to support families which is positive. There is a good, strong local partnership.</p> <p>Wendy Lowder thanked Nina for her report which was easy to read and she would explore doing the same for Early Help Adults. Could partner up with private sector landlords around vulnerable families. Nina confirmed that Neighbourhood Teams have been briefed and are meeting to look at how this integrates around the Hub and neighbourhood services.</p>
5.	Social prescribing
	<p>Phil Parkes delivered a presentation on Social Prescribing in relation to people with -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low level mental health • A long term managed health condition(s) • Social isolation • Frequent attendance at GP practice or other Health & Social Care services <p>In respect of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting & empowering people in their community • Building people’s resilience and improving their health and wellbeing • Reducing pressure in the Health & Social Care system, including High Intensity Users (HIU) <p>Wendy thanked Phil for a good presentation. There is exploration around carer support and there is more to do re early help for adults plus reflections on investing in community capacity building.</p> <p>Phil confirmed that the challenge is in respect of the over use of the voluntary sector and identifying gaps in the service. ‘Early Doors’ is working well with area teams re gathering insights into what people are looking for and bringing neighbours together. Initial success has a lot to do with discussion and whole partnership working.</p> <p>Cllr Lamb thanked Phil for the presentation and the good work being done. Area Teams are the hub of community activity and the Area Manager sits on the Steering Group and Social Prescribing. CAB and Age UK could also be involved.</p> <p>The pilot will run for another 3 years.</p>
6.	Delivery Group Highlight Reports
	<p>Anti Poverty – The Action Plan will be refreshed in respect of Actions. The focus of the new plan is on the joint and combined activities of the membership to make the most effective use of member time and commitment. The Group will continue to support the oversight of poverty-related activities in the areas of highest need.</p> <p>Cllr Platts confirmed that the main issue with UC is the 6 week delay and there</p>

are concerns as we approach Christmas. Families will think about buying christmas presents rather than paying rent. If people make a mistake in the process then they are knocked off the system which is a concern.

Dave Fullen (Berneslai Homes) confirmed that the amount of rent arrears incurred by UC tenants was very high and approx £300,000 in arrears will be accrued by the end of 12 months. They are therefore using alternative methods of payment. They are also concerned about the Christmas period. 424 tenants are on UC at the moment and numbers are increasing by approx. 20 per week. Private landlords will increasingly close their doors and it is very difficult for people to get out of debt when they are on a low income.

Early Help Adults - Significant progress has been made to refresh the approach of the delivery group, aligned to the work that the Task and Finish Group have been leading in response to the recommendations. The Group met on 4 October to undertake a fundamental review of the delivery plan and re-aligned this to the All Age Early Help strategy priorities.

Live Well Barnsley – info is now locally based. Limited resources available so making community contacts as well as professional contacts. Social Prescribing can also access this. Launch delayed to allow for staff training. Data can be manipulated to suit the individual.

Key achievements identified this period and detailed in the report – SYFR Safe and Well, CCG Acute Frailty Network, Lottery Place Based Social Action programme, Age Friendly Barnsley conference, Stay Well This Winter, Social Prescribing, SYFAB Funding Advice, launch of Crowdfund Barnsley, Independent Living at Home, Carers' Strategy, programmes to target barriers to employment, More and Better Jobs Employer Pledge, Live Well Barnsley.

Early Help Children – The action plan has been agreed and aligns with the All Age Early Help Strategy and Continuous Service Improvement Plan for Children's Services. Achievements this period, and which are detailed in the report, are – launch of Early Help Helps video, training for CAMHS new staff, strengthening of CAMHS referral process, targeted briefings with SY PCSO's and Police Officers in SNS, development of workshop re creating a good early help assessment and action plan, strengthening of performance reporting, closure programme for long running cases, Fair Access procedure update.

- There is an emphasis on training and support re partner engagement and specific work with CAMHS and SY Police.
- Maximise use of the Family Star to track progress and impact for families. Performance info can confirm where things are working and where they are not.
- Drawing up improvement plans re involvement of secondary schools to engage with early help and this will continue looking at how we work with health partners re mandatory checks. CAMHS are doing training re early help as mandatory.
- Good engagement in the group from all partner agencies.

7.	Forward Plan
	Action: Members to think about items for the Forward Plan
8.	Any Other Business
	No further business identified.
9.	Date of Next Meeting
	Monday, 19 February 2018 13:30 – 16:30 Venue to be confirmed

	Action Schedule
	<p>Actions update from 14/02/2017 Item 2 (b) : Andrea/Michelle to discuss approaches to staff re poverty with Trade Unions – Phil Hollingsworth to raise this with Unison - Ongoing</p> <p>Actions update from 15/08/2017 Item 4 a) : Action - Anti-Poverty Group – Margaret Libreri to identify representative from Schools Alliance - Carried forward to next meeting on 19/02/18.</p> <p>Actions update from 21/11/2017 Item 3 : Performance Framework to be developed aligned to the strategic priorities – Each delivery group has been asked to identify 10 key measures and a report will come to the next meeting for discussion around ongoing work in respect of performance measures.</p> <p>Item 7 : Members to think about items for the Forward Plan</p>