

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council Meeting:

19th September 2016

Agenda Item: 5

Report of North Area Council
Manager

North Area Council Stronger Communities Grant Update

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update members about the North Area Council Stronger Communities Grant Projects performance.
- 1.2 To confirm that a process evaluation meeting has been arranged.
- 1.3 To determine if the Area Council intend to run the grants programme in 2017/18.

2. Recommendations

A Grants workshop will take place on the 20th September 2016. This workshop is open to all the North Area Council representatives. It is recommended that member note the date of the development workshop and it's core purpose:

- 2.1 **Members agree how the £29,766.00 remainder of the 2016/17 allocation will be utilised.**
- 2.2 **Members note the outcome and learning from the evaluation and approval process and agree to an amendment to the approval process.**
- 2.3 **Members agree to a revision of the guidance documentation both for applicants and the panel that provides clear instruction to applicants with regards to year on year applications from the same organisation.**
- 2.4 **Members consider if they wish to run the grants programme in 2017/18.**

3. Grants Project Performance Updates:

The reminder of the report is a summary of grant project performance in the first quarter of the funding period 2016/17. A further update will follow in November.

Ad Astra Barnsley CIC – Altering Perspectives: £19,940

The project consists of four strands: i) Living History which will involve working with school children and elderly residents to revisit the area industrial heritage. Considering how lifestyles have changed over the last 100 years. ii) Delivery of 80 personal health and social education sessions in North Area schools. iii) Run 15 engagement days, either family fun day or community days. iv) Family friendly volunteering with the young people already engaged with Ad Astra.

Project Update – Report Extract:

It's been a great start to the project. We have managed to hit the ground running on this new terms funded programme.

As we had already got extremely good contacts in schools we managed to arrange our new sessions very quickly on the back of the reputation we built last year. All the schools were very pleased to hear we had received funding to deliver another round of work for and with them.

In Horizon CC we did another round of 2-hour lunchtime drop-ins where we had 30 different young people attend over the half term project. One of the main topics we covered this time was Self Harming, which has become a 'bit of a trend' amongst some young women. There were more serious cases of this we had to become involved in and this lead to referrals to GPs and onto CAMHs Service.

In Carlton CC we have run one group with Y8s who were at risk of not graduating into Y9 – this was a mixed gender group of 12 young people who had become disengaged with the school curriculum they were in and out of Seclusion and often excluded from school. 50 % of the group were actually allowed to graduate. We have also started work with another group of young women – In this group of 12, 80% of the group are classed as 'Looked After Children' these are either with foster parents – extended family or transient between family and friends – several have CP orders and one young woman has a 12 month old son.

In Wilthorpe Primary School we have worked with 2 classes to deliver a PHSE Environmental project based on creating an Outdoor Classroom.

We run a very successful Family Fun Day working in partnership with several local groups and although the weather was not favourable to us we still managed to have almost 250 in attendance.

As part of the launch of Love Where You Live month we completed Litter Picks with our young people and volunteers in the St Pauls field area – Harry Road Park – Darton Park – Windhill Parks in Staincross.

Our Living History Project has also got off to a flying start with work being done in 2 classes at Summer Lane Primary and contact has been made with 3 groups and 1 residential home for work / interviews to be done in September.

Emmanuel Methodist Church – Integrate: £19,908

The principle aim of the project is to provide a series of appropriate activities so that different ages in the local community can engage in and benefit from, a sense of community belonging and cohesion. There will be a range of activities provided, ranging from inter-generational IT workshops to craft workshops and one off events, designed for older people as well as children and young people, and, in particular, opportunities for different generations to be together. There are three outcomes: i) Activity groups which enable young people to meet with their peers in a safe environment engaging in structured activities. Including the delivery of workshops focussing on personal well-being; especially self-esteem and aspiration. ii) Intergenerational activities iii) Provide activities and partnership opportunities to increase the awareness of environmental concerns

Project Update – Report Extract:

Although the project is still in its infancy, it has begun to make progress on the targets set out in the bid.

To begin with, the project had to employ a coordinator to facilitate groups and events. This was quickly achieved and they began to work on the project at the beginning of April.

1. Fusion events – these are monthly events are aimed at being community wide. They include a simple meal with activities which are suitable for both young and old alike. These events have proven to be very popular with demand for the groups growing each month. There have currently been 3 fusion events;
 - Beetle Drive
 - Christian Aid Big Breakfast
 - NSPCC games night
 - Queen's birthday celebration
2. Monthly IT drop in for people needing IT support – although this has been a small select group of people accessing this, the people who have accessed this have found beneficial, especially with the low ratios to 'expert' volunteers it has meant that they have been able to get more out of the sessions.
3. Ignite Schools sessions – these self-esteem and emotional literacy sessions have principally taken place with secondary school children mainly at Horizon Community College. However a series of workshop days designed to help year 6 children during their transition to secondary school has enabled the project to work with a number of primary schools too. There has also been a history/RE day for young people in year 5 thinking about a local famous historical figure has enabled the project to engage young people to thinking about their local community as well as thinking about their own aspirations and life goals. Both the secondary school sessions and the primary school sessions have been well received by the students, parents and the schools themselves.
4. One Way and Reboot – these are the provision made to engage children and young people to be able to meet with their peers in a safe environment and

engaging them in structured activities. Although these groups have been a part of the work done at Emmanuel in the community for a number of years, the project has given it a new lease of life attracting even more children and young people.

5. Trash Bash – a litter pick was organised with the Friends of Wilthorpe Park and the Clean and Green team. Over 20 volunteers were encouraged to collect 50 bags of rubbish in the area between Asda and the Fleets collage building.
6. Volunteer recruitment and development. A group of volunteers have been identified to assist with the project, although this is not a definitive list as the project is constantly evolving. The volunteers have already been given the opportunity to attend a free first aid course, thus beginning the gaining of new skills for the volunteers and developing their skills.
7. Began talks with Age UK and Barnsley College to provide a monthly afternoon tea event to target over 40 socially isolated people.

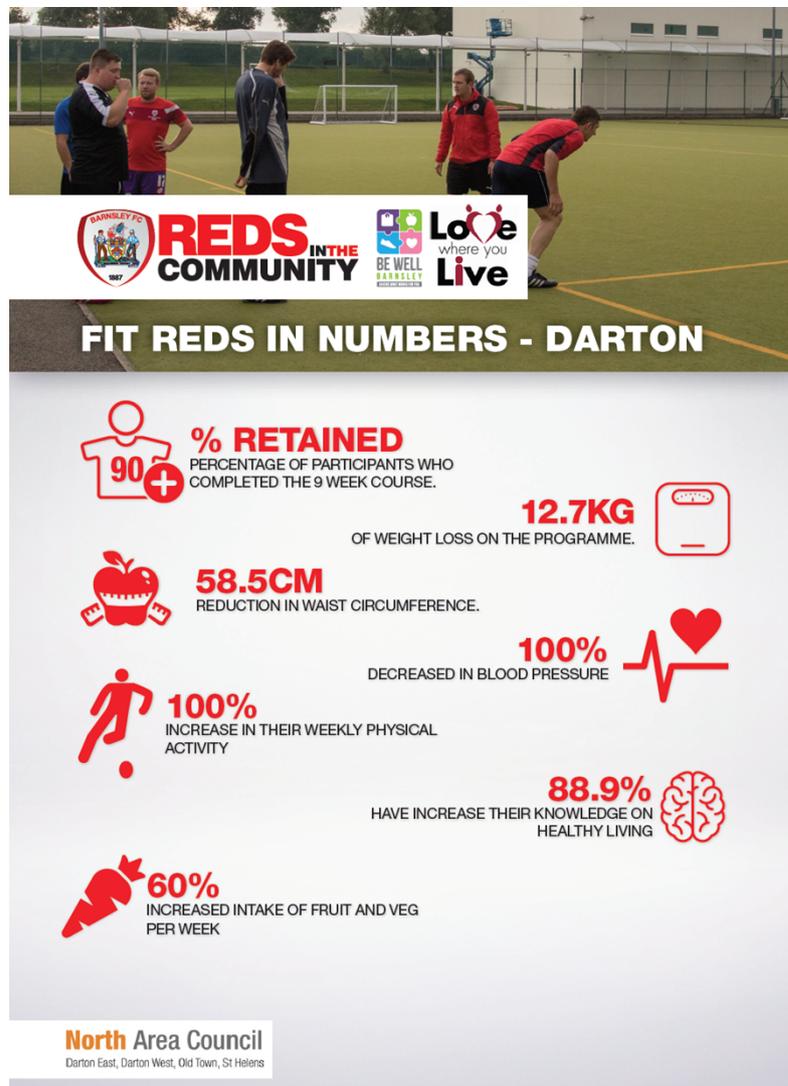
Reds in the Community: £10,593

The Fit Reds programme is delivered through a series of weekly sessions over the course of nine weeks. Through the Fit Reds programme, Fit Reds Health Trainers provide participants with information regarding diet, nutrition and healthy lifestyles along with vital one to one support. Fit Reds Physical Activity Coaches engage participants with physical activity suited to their individual needs. Using football and Barnsley Football Club as a hook, the programme supports men to make positive lifestyle changes and become more physically active. The programme will be available to 60 men across the North Area.

Project Update – 7th June to 2nd August, sessions ran at Darton College.

12 people signed up to the programme.

10 participants attended, with 9 completing the course.



A comprehensive project update will follow in the November report.

Royal Voluntary Service – Barnsley North Looking Out for Older People: £19,793

The project aims to tackle issues of health and wellbeing by working with older people to put together a package of support which will help find a way out of loneliness & isolation and to offer advice and signposting around other sources of help such as benefits entitlement, aids and adaptations etc. Their discussions will substantially be led by the older person themselves and will be used to put together a package of support aimed at reducing feelings of loneliness and isolation.

RVS will conduct at least 400 home visits to older people who have been identified as being at risk of loneliness and isolation.

RVS will create sustainability in 5 newly formed groups across the North Area.

RVS have stated as one of their outcomes that they will create 20 volunteering opportunities and recruit 5 volunteers by June 2016.

Project Update:

In this first quarter of the second year of the grant the Inclusion Officer has continued to develop links within the North Area with all relevant agencies and the general public.

She has helped to develop the groups already set up in the first year and is discussing the setting up of additional new groups.

Referrals for individuals have continued to come from family, friends, social care professionals and other local groups. The number of home visits is over target as new volunteers have joined existing volunteers from year one and we continue to try to provide opportunities for people to mix socially led by service users which will remain sustainable when funding ends.

Case study:

Mrs B from St Helens, recently lost her husband October 2015 whom she shared a bungalow with. Upon initially meeting Mrs B she was very tearful and stressed from everything that had recently happened and was in much need of companionship as she did not have any family. Mrs B was mobile and was able to get out and about, but lacked the confidence to do many things on her own such as shopping, post office trips, hospital appointments since her husband had passed away. Mrs B appreciated someone just calling around having a chat and seeing how she was; knowing she was receiving support was comforting. After about 2 months of seeing Mrs B she had started to fall around the house although refusing support during after speaking to Mrs B again after a 3rd fall, she gave me permission to set up a lifeline from independent living at home, from which she received a pendant to be able to press in the likelihood of an accident/ fall/ emergency. Mrs B's confidence has grown over time with visits and encouragement and she had started to make trips up to the post office, she has started to attend a weekly group at Churchfields. A volunteer became available and was introduced to Mrs B, with whom she formed a

good relationship with within a matter of weeks. Our volunteer now meets with our service user 1-2 times a week helping her with shopping and befriending in general.

4. Next steps

Member will meet on the 20th September 2016 to agree how the remainder of the funding will be utilised. The primary focus of the workshop will be to review and refine the guidance documentation and the evaluation and approval process

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