

# BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**South Area Council Meeting:  
25<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

## **Report of South Area Council Manager**

### **South Area Council – South Healthy Holidays**

#### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the summer delivery of the South Healthy Holidays programme.
- 1.2 To provide information so that Members can consider whether a programme and budget for next year should be allocated when discussing the South Area Council commissioning budget.

#### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 **That Members note the update, lessons learnt and next steps.**
- 2.2 **That the South Area Council takes note of the delivery of the programme to date when discussing the unallocated South Area Council commissioning budget for next year.**

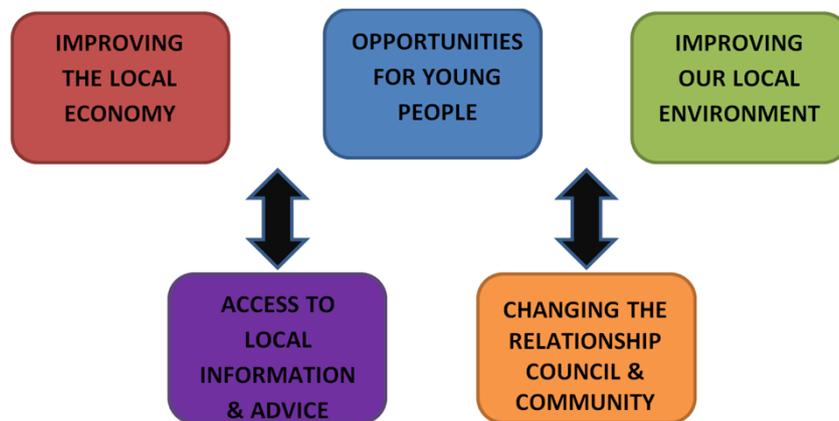
#### **3. South Healthy Holidays Programme Background**

- 3.1 At a workshop held on the 28<sup>th</sup> February the South Area Council recommended an allocation of £10,000 from its 2019/2020 commissioning budget in order to support Healthy Holiday activities.
- 3.2 In 2018 the Barnsley Food Access Network (FAN) was successful in securing funding to support school holiday activities with food in some of the borough's most deprived areas. A Barnsley Healthy Holidays (HH) Task Group coordinated the work. The activities targeted areas where families were impacted by the lack of free school meals in the holidays. The areas selected for activities with food provision were in the localities with highest deprivation; Dearne, Central and North.

The South Area wasn't selected as a locality however, the Wombwell Ward Alliance, led by one of its volunteers, decided to deliver something similar on a much smaller scale and funded through the Ward Alliance. A successful 'Schools out for Summer' programme was run with activities in fun and games with phonics at Wombwell library, craft and games in Wombwell Park, family cook and eat sessions at St Michael's Church and 'let's get active' sessions at Wombwell Sporting Athletics Club and Loxley Gardens. The Wombwell Ward Alliance and the Community Development Officer were able to identify local resources and partners with links to families in order to put on a range of engaging activities which included access to food.

The Darfield and Hoyland Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliances have experience of delivering similar activities which could be replicated through this fund.

- 3.3 Area teams were made aware that the Barnsley Healthy Holidays Programme wouldn't be running in any of the areas that year. In light of this and the success of Ward Alliance projects last year, **the South Area Council committed £10,000 of the South Area Council commissioning budget toward funding activities, projects and services across the 4 wards, Wombwell, Darfield, Hoyland Milton and Rockingham.**
- 3.4 As part of the DfE funding for the 2018 Barnsley Healthy Holidays Programme a report produced by the task group was presented to the Stronger Communities Partnership in November 2018. The paper quoted research into Holiday Hunger which identified that **the lengthy school holidays have a negative impact upon children in lower income households due to the additional financial stressors incurred including:**
- **Impact of lack of free-school meals**
  - **Increased costs of childcare**
  - **Additional costs of associated activities, transport and meals**
  - **Loss of earnings due to childcare responsibilities**
- 3.5 The Healthy Holidays funding was made available to support the Wombwell, Darfield, Hoyland Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliances and priorities alongside the South Area Council priorities below:



- 3.6 Whilst the funding was available through the Ward Alliances with activities being developed at ward level, the intention was always to promote and make available **all** activities to families and young people across the South Area Council. The Ward Alliance approach was taken in order to ensure the delivery of activities promotes local partnership working builds on local assets and relationships and support a community development approach. It was recognised that Ward Alliances have the skills, local knowledge and understanding of the needs of their area to develop a targeted approach and maximise the reach of the activities and impact.
- 3.7 The Wombwell, Darfield, Hoyland Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliances have an existing budget of £10,000 per ward which is used to support identified priorities. There was recognition that this budget can often be oversubscribed in

terms of applications throughout the year and has competing demands on the funding. This was therefore an opportunity for this fund to be used specifically to target 'Healthy Holiday activities'.

- 3.8 An integral part of the thinking of the Healthy Holidays Task Group last year was to **avoid any negative stigmatisation associated with the provision of free school meals and free food**. The approach was taken to ensure a non – stigmatising approach to delivery and promotion of activities and was an approach that was felt should be continued.

#### 4. Key Headlines

Week 1...		Week 2...		Week 3...	
<b>Mon 22nd July</b> Cook & Eat 11am - 2pm St Michael's Church, Park St, Wombwell	<b>Tues 23rd July</b> Performing Arts <b>LION KING</b> 2:30pm - 3:30pm Darfield Library, Ages 4 - 12 Let's Get Active 11am - 1pm Wombwell Athletics Ground	<b>Mon 29th July</b> Dog's Trust 1pm - 2pm Hoyland Library Circus Skills 10:30am - 11:30am Rockingham Centre	<b>Tues 30th July</b> Solar & Dotty Arts 2:30pm - 3:30pm Darfield Library, Ages 4-12 Fun in the Sun 12pm - 2pm Loxley Gardens, Wombwell	<b>Wed 31st July</b> Darfield Summer Gala 11am - 2pm Darfield Park No need to book! Crafts & Games 11:30am - 1:30pm Wombwell Park	<b>Thurs 25th July</b> Reptile Roadshow 11am - 1pm Houghton Main Sports Club, Middelcliffe Ages 4 - 12
<b>Mon 5th August</b> Human Body Workshop 2:30pm - 3:30pm Darfield Library Ages 4-12 Cook & Eat 11am - 2pm St Michael's, Wombwell	<b>Wed 7th August</b> Crafts, Games, Bug Hunt & Science EXPLOSION! 11:30am - 1:30pm Wombwell Park *Booking required for science explosion	<b>Thurs 8th August</b> Let's Get Crafty 11:30am - 12:30pm Wombwell Library	<b>Fri 9th August</b> Treasure Chest Crafts 10am - 11am Hoyland Library Cricket is Fun! Learn New Skills 11am-1pm Elsecar Cricket Club	<b>Fri 26th July</b> Clay Modelling 10am - 11am Hoyland Library	<b>Fri 2nd August</b> Painting Session 10am - 11am Hoyland Library
<b>Sat 10th August</b> Family Fun Day! 10am - 12pm Hoyland Town Centre					

- ✓ 918 healthy lunches given out = Wombwell 324, Darfield 224, Hoyland Milton Rockingham 370
- ✓ 37 healthy holidays sessions run (Wombwell13, Darfield 10 + Darfield Summer gala, Hoyland Milton Rockingham 14 + Town Centre family fun day)
- ✓ Family inclusive and intergenerational programme – All sessions opened up to families
- ✓ A mix of sessions and types of activities including craft sessions, bug hunts, reptile workshops, circus skills, cook and eat sessions, athletics, cricket, music etc.
- ✓ 6 activities engaging young people in physical activities = Wombwell 2, Darfield 2, Hoyland Milton and Rockingham 2
- ✓ 55 volunteers helped to run the sessions = Wombwell 26, Darfield 8, Hoyland Milton Rockingham 21
- ✓ 16 New volunteers = Wombwell 5, Hoyland Milton and Rockingham 11
- ✓ £4342.10 funding spent matched with £3350.41 volunteer hours. (Wombwell £1035.52 spent with £2431.80 in volunteer match, Darfield £1762 spent with £148.61 volunteer match and £1000 topped up from the Ward Alliance, Hoyland

Milton and Rockingham £1544.58 1 spent with £770 in volunteer match and £300 in kind contributions)

- ✓ 16 community venues supported and used for delivery
- ✓ 9 community groups helped with the running, organisation and delivery of the activities
- ✓ Healthy lunches distributed to 12 young people in need through the 0- 19 Team, Berneslai Homes and Children's centre.

## **5.0 Good practice, impact and lessons learnt**

### **Targeting support versus inclusive approach**

- 5.1 The programme was always intended to provide opportunities for families to come together without any negative stigmatisation associated with the provision of free school meals or free food. This was achieved through the delivery of an inclusive programme however it does mean it is difficult to determine how many of the families involved are families impacted by the lack of free school meals and food poverty.
- 5.2 The project provided a platform for the South Area Team to work with the 0 to 19 Team, Local nursing team, Targeted Youth Support, Berneslai Homes and children's centres to distribute any surplus food from the activities to families they are supporting which are living in food poverty. This approach was developed as the programme was being delivered with significant learning and opportunities to roll out identified. The Community Development Officers feel that this would be key to better target a programme with the intention of alleviating some of the financial strain for our families in need in any future delivery.
- 5.3 The programme was targeted at younger families aged 4 to 12 year old with some activities open to older ages. The South Area Team are currently working with stakeholders to broaden this out to include older age groups/ teenagers and families of all ages.

### **Timing and publicity**

- 5.4 The lead in time from the £10,000 Area Council funding being allocated, Ward Alliances having the time to develop their programmes and developing the publicity was very tight. Publicity for the programme needed to start much earlier allowing the South Area Team, Ward Alliances and schools to promote and target the activities.
- 5.5 The first week of the programme wasn't well attended; feedback was that combined with the late publicity, parents also hadn't started looking for activities for the first week combined with the first week being popular for family holidays. The last week of the school holidays also saw a drop off in numbers as it is assumed parents and young people are preparing for the start of the new school year.

### **Venues and locations for delivery**

- 5.6 The South Area Team worked with libraries staff to incorporate the libraries school holiday provision but with an added offer of a healthy snack or lunch. Libraries have always been a good venue for delivery in the South and are a familiar venue for people accessing services such as the CAB welfare rights support, private sector housing support and wider health and wellbeing support

activities that have taken place in libraries. The library sessions all worked very well and were well attended.

- 5.7 Some venues did not work for some of the sessions such as the circus skills workshop at Rockingham centre where there was no attendance although the music workshops held there was at capacity but could be due to this being a recognised venue for Rockingham Band. Owd Marthas Yard, which whilst was full and worked for an activity, it was felt by the Community Development Officer did not target the intended audience. It has been suggested, particularly in the Hoyland, Milton and Rockingham wards, that different locations be considered in future such as Cloughfields.
- 5.8 The following locations worked really well, attracted good numbers; Loxley Community Gardens, Wombwell Park, Wombwell Dam, Hoyland and Elsecar Cricket Club, Darfield Park, and Low Valley Methodist Church.
- 5.9 The programme was always intended to be South area wide delivery but with the detail of the activities being developed by the Ward Alliances who better understand their area, local capacity and need. The activities delivered encouraged families to travel outside of their own area and into the neighbouring wards. This is something which the South Area Team has struggled to achieve in the past and is a step in the right direction in order to build better area wide community networks.

#### **Added value and additional outcomes**

- 6.0 Whilst this was a Healthy Holidays programme the South Area Team was conscious of taking an asset based community development approach which included supporting a range of community venues, the Area Team promoting and working with existing community provision and community groups and building in outcomes around:
- Encouraging, promoting and supporting healthy eating
  - Increasing physical activities and opportunities to try new activities
  - Better use of open spaces
  - Reducing demand through access to early help
  - People are happier, healthier, independent and active
  - People volunteering and contributing towards stronger communities – providing opportunities for ‘micro volunteering’
  - Supporting the 5 Ways to Wellbeing by connecting people, bringing families together, being more active, sharing information, developing new skills
- 6.1 Partnership working was considerably strengthened for example: the Forestry Commission Recreation Officer is looking to work with the Wombwell Community Development Officer to deliver future activities at Wombwell Woods, Darfield Museum want to run an history event in October, the School nursing team distributed packed lunches to families in food poverty in Hoyland, Milton and Rockingham and the 0 – 19 Team distributed packed lunches for families in Darfield.
- 6.2 The Wombwell Ward Alliance had the added benefit and experience of delivering a similar, if not smaller in scale, programme last year which meant a number of approaches could be tweaked and refined this year. It is therefore worth noting that this was the first time Darfield, Hoyland, Milton and Rockingham had run a full healthy holiday’s programme.

6.3 Ward Alliances took different approaches in terms of delivery of activities. Most of the activities for Hoyland, Milton and Rockingham were bought in from local suppliers and experts and external providers funded to run sessions and all food was bought in pre prepared by a local business. Wombwells programme was very heavily reliant on volunteers who prepared all the food, supported volunteers to run the events such as the craft sessions at Wombwell library supported by Ward Alliance members, sport coaches at Wombwell Athletics Club and volunteers at the angling club. There is an opportunity in future to encourage existing groups to deliver more activities, encourage more micro/ one off volunteering, build capacity locally whilst also promoting local groups. Given the timescales involved and that this hadn't been run before this wasn't always possible for the summer programme.

### **Highlights**

- 6.4 Elsecar Cricket club ran a session which was attended by 19 young people with a high proportion being girls and new to cricket.
- 6.5 Bug hunt at Owd Marthas Yard was run alongside the Royal Horticultural Society CommuniTeas project. This was supported by the Community Development Officer and Tidy Team and was a great opportunity for adults and young people to learn about propagating plants followed by a bug hunt.
- 6.6 150 lunches given out during the family fun day in Hoyland Town Centre. A number of lunch were given out to older people using the town centre and some of the learning and experience from this is being reflected in the planning for the Hoyland, Milton and Rockingham Winter Wellbeing events.
- 6.7 Following the Rockingham Brass Band activity 6 young people signed up to joining the band.
- 6.8 The reptile roadshow held at Low Valley Methodist church was fully booked very early on and interest continued up to the morning of the activity
- 6.9 Darfield Ward Alliance was able to match fund the £2500 with £1000 from the Ward Alliance funding to enhance the level of provision on offer across Darfield. The funding was used to meet the Ward Alliance priorities of Health and Wellbeing and youth provision. The funding provided an opportunity to merge the project with the annual summer gala to reach a wider audience.
- 7.0 Talks are now taking place with Darfield Museum to run a family history event during October Half term.
- 7.1 Friends of Wombwell Park have seen an increase in volunteer help at their subsequent work days.
- 7.2 The family fishing day was very well attended with lots of families new to fishing and the Wombwell Dam. Two of the young people have since been back to the club. This was also the first time this relatively new group had hosted an event like this. With the support of the Community Development Officer they were able to run the event and develop as a group.

### **Some feedback and comments:**

“ Well done to all who helped organise and run the activity, you are a credit to your town”

“Was brilliant, thank you so much Daughter really enjoyed it”

“Thanks for a lovely afternoon, the kids loved it. And thanks to the volunteers for being so patient”

“Well done to the organisers, lovely atmosphere in the town this morning”

“Yesterday went well, we ended up with 19 young people attending”

“Boys loved it, thank you”

### **8. Next steps**

- 8.1 A smaller programme is being discussed and developed by the Wombwell Ward Alliance for the October and February holidays.
- 8.2 Hoyland, Milton and Rockingham Ward Alliance are discussing an October and Christmas programme with a recommendation from the Community Development Officer to work more closely with the Children’s centre, Early Intervention and Prevention worker to better target activities based on the learning from the summer programme.
- 8.3 Darfield Ward Alliance is currently planning the October, February and Easter Healthy Holiday programme and will build on the links to the Children’s Centre and primary schools.
- 8.4 It is recommended that the South Area Council takes note of the delivery of the programme to date when discussing the unallocated South Area Council commissioning budget for next year.

### **South Area Council**

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Appendix 1: Photos