



# STRONGER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

## Stronger Communities Partnership Board Meeting Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021 14:00pm-16:00pm Teams Minutes

Member	Organisation/Service	Attended	Apologies	Deputy
<b>Board Members</b>				
Councillor Jenny Platts <b>(JP)</b>	Elected Member – BMBC	X		
Councillor Brenda Eastwood <b>(BE)</b>	Elected Member – BMBC	X		
Phil Hollingsworth <b>(PH)</b>	Service Director, Safer, Stronger, Healthier Communities – BMBC	X		
Jayne Hellowell <b>(JH)</b>	Chair of Early Help Adults sub-group, Head of Commissioning and Healthier Communities – BMBC	X		
Wendy Lowder <b>(WL)</b>	Executive Director Communities	X		
Jane Holliday <b>(JHO)</b>	CEO – Age UK	X		
Tara Ramsden <b>(TR)</b>	Third Sector Dementia Alliance Chair - Making Space		X	
John Marshall <b>(JM)</b>	Chief Executive – Barnsley CVS		X	
Carrie Abbot <b>(CA)</b>	Service Director Public Health and Regulation – BMBC		X	Garreth Robinson <b>(GR)</b>
Rob Holmes <b>(RH)</b>	Fire and Rescue Services - South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue		X	
Julie Chapman <b>(JC)</b>	Service Director, Adults Social Care & Wellbeing, People Directorate - BMBC		X	Amanda Bannister <b>(AB)</b>
Dave Fullen <b>(DF)</b>	Director of Customer and Estate Services – Berneslai Homes	X		
Gill Stansfield <b>(GS)</b>	Deputy Director of Operations - SWYFT		X	

Jill Jinks <b>(JJ)</b>	Community Health Services – SWYFT	X		
Niall O'Reilly <b>(NO)</b>	HWBB Provider Forum – SYHA	X		
Jamie Wike <b>(JW)</b>	BCCG – Barnsley CCG		X	
Garreth Robinson	Public Health Practitioner - BMBC	X		
Amanda Bannister <b>(AB)</b>	Principal Social Worker - BMBC	X		
<b>Board Support</b>				
Shiv Bhurtun <b>(SB)</b>	Strategic Governance Partnership and Transformation Manager – BMBC	X		
Helen Ibbotson <b>(HI)</b>	Business Support – BMBC	X		
<b>Attendees</b>				
Diane Lee <b>(DL)</b>	Head of Public Health – BMBC	X		
Dominic Armstrong <b>(DA)</b>	Service Manager – BMBC	x		
Rachel Payling <b>(RP)</b>	Head of Service, Stronger Communities - BMBC	x		

<b>Action Summary</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>
4	DF and DA to meet outside of the board to discuss Harry's Pledge further and highlight any links into the Support to Carers Strategy.	Dave Fullen/Dominic Armstrong
5	SB to take comments into account in respect of the SCP Board Plan on a Page and action appropriately.	Shiv Bhurtun
8	SB to review forward plan in respect of the next board, taking in to account time restraints.	Shiv Bhurtun
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies and Introductions</b>	
	The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made, and apologies noted as above.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Previous Board 03.06.2021</b>	
	Previous minutes from 03.06.2021 agreed to be a true record.	
	Previous actions reviewed	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Area Council Recovery Work</b>	
	RP presented current progress.	
	RP highlighted the reactive work by teams in response to the pandemic which remains as the service move into the recovery stage.	

'Community listening exercises' were discussed, which are pop-up events centred on 4 key questions aimed at understanding residents' needs and issues following the pandemic. The approach has been adopted across all 6 areas. Data will be analysed by allocated Project officers and findings will be shared widely upon completion.

Support in respect of food and keeping in touch/connected for individuals self-isolating continues. More specific support offer and accessibility also continues to be shared across agencies e.g. mental health support, support from volunteers etc.

Work with providers continues, this has now moved into the recovery phase which includes access to PPE, digital support as well as providing advice and guidance in respect of re-opening safely.

During the pandemic positive relationships have been built with partners via the Neighbourhood Engagement Officers. Points of contact have been ascertained within each of the 6 areas, this has also allowed positive promotion in respect of the vaccination programme.

Support has been offered to the VCSE in respect of grant funding opportunities around covid resilience, mental health, business planning, sustainability as well as access to PPE. Access to a support programme funded through the Inclusive Economy Recovery Plan has also been discussed widely. Funds from the Inclusive Economic Programme has enabled support with bid writing, business planning and access to external funding.

**Additional comments/questions**

Chair - highlighted the importance of the 'community listening exercise' data being fed to Ward Alliance Members.

Cllr BE – shared experience of the listening session attended as highly positive and highlighted the appropriate emphasis placed on the importance of family.

PH - welcomed the update summary and shared the positive observation in respect of the investment in the community-based model and how well this had been evidenced during the height of the pandemic period. PH:

- Made reference to the speed of response and engagement of the relevant support was highlighted.
- Added that without a doubt the community voluntary sector had too impacted positively on the outcome through the range of support they offered throughout which also continues.
- Shared a view that many people felt that we were now over the worse of the pandemic and that the impact of covid highlighted the importance of each area finding strength again in the value of the model.

Cllr BE – added that the local luncheon club had recently re-opened and noted an attendance of around 29 individuals, however some individuals remain wary. Cllr BE remains in regular contact with these individuals and is hopeful that they will return as they feel more comfortable with the level of vaccine uptake.

**4. Support to Carers**

DA shared presentation with the board.

Current consultation with residents of the borough is being undertaken via telephone in a bid to reach out to individuals with no access to internet facilities.

It was noted that the responses documented within the presentation referred to forty contacts. DA emphasized this to be a small proportion of unpaid carers in the borough and that this is an ongoing

piece of work.

### **Additional comments/questions**

WL – shared the following observations:

- Current work is producing highly valuable set of information in the development of an important strategy particularly within the context of the pandemic.
- highlighted an experience in the community during the pandemic and engaging with a person who was caring for her husband diagnosed with dementia. WL noted how exhausted the carer was and the potential impact on her own health. WL reflected that she felt that adult social care had focussed on the individual requiring the service and potentially less so on people around them who provide the day-to-day support and care.

AB – highlighted the importance of strength-based conversations by social care remaining holistic and personable. AB echoed comments from WL and noted the importance of any requirements from a carer's perspective being considered. In terms of safeguarding, AB noted the benefits of family group conferencing and how this can support carers to have difficult conversations with family members in a safe and managed environment.

DF – highlighted how insightful DA's presentation had been. DF went on to discuss the importance of the strategy not just concentrating on the traditional adults' services. DF noted that during the pandemic Berneslai Homes had signed up to Harry's Pledge, this goes beyond Berneslai Homes being required to provide appropriate housing and any required adaptations. There is a requirement for homes to be provided with specialist care and support, there is also a requirement for care services to be offered to support individuals who want to live independently in the community. This has shown a commitment from Berneslai Homes that they are caring for our communities. There was an agreement that DA and DV would discuss this further outside of today's board.

**ACTION – DF and DA to meet outside of the board to discuss Harry's Pledge further and highlight any links into the Support to Carers Strategy.**

The chair noted the vast differences in responses received and queried whether there had been a uniformed approach in place in respect of discussions. DA referred back to the specific questions which had been put forward during each discussion.

AB - noted the importance of carers being aware of their right to their own assessment. AB noted how carers often struggled to see themselves in this role. Many carers see it as their duty to care for their wife/husband/family member.

JH – offered assurance to the partnership that Jo Ekin was heavily involved in the development of the strategy. JH referred to the vast number of unrecognised carers in our area and the carer's toolkit which BMBC was now working towards.

JHO – queried clarity of farer charging within the context of carers entitlements and explained that individual's decision on requesting an assessment proactively is often influenced by whether or not they are eligible for funding. DA acknowledged this point and agreed the importance of awareness. DA noted that it remained the council's policy to assess the individual against any financial support they may require. For instance, any request for respite support will be linked to the individual requiring that support.

AB – noted the importance of the use of carer cards, this provides carers with assurance around the safety of person being cared for.

JH – acknowledged the comment from AB and highlighted the link into digital inclusion work programme

	being led by JH and potential opportunities for carers. JH agreed that the carers assists had been highlighted as a gap and that this would be looked at moving forward.
<b>5.</b>	<b>SCP Plan on a Page September 2021 – August 2022</b>
	<p>SB shared the ‘SCP plan on a page’ with members with recommendation for the plan to be supported and endorsed.</p> <p>SB briefed that the plan is a framework through which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The partnership’s strategic aims and vision are explained.</li> <li>• Connection to the strategic ambition of the Barnsley 2030 objectives is described.</li> <li>• The most appropriate ‘Themes’ are identified where this partnership will make the most impact.</li> <li>• Partner’s contribution (actions/activities) will be progressed. These are linked into wider strategic agendas within the context of early help and prevention.</li> <li>• Partnership’s action is connected to the Barnsley 2030 ambition.</li> </ul> <p>SB added that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The table in the plan summarised key areas of work for the next 12 months.</li> <li>• Achievements and Impact will be reported on using a range of format towards the end of the period which will be shared widely.</li> <li>• The draft plan is being designed by BMBC comms team and once finalised will be published in the appropriate format as through BMBC Coms.</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional comments/questions</b></p> <p>WL – observation, in respect of relationship representation and noted the integrated care arrangements.</p> <p>There was an agreement that items “Skills for life and work” and “Help to access employment” are more appropriate for the ‘Inclusive Economy Board’.</p> <p><b>ACTION – SB to take comments into account in respect of the SCP Board Plan on a Page and action appropriately.</b></p> <p>The chair confirmed that the proposed ‘SCP plan on a page 2021-2022’ will replace the previous SCP Annual plan.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Increase the number of Safe Places available across the borough</b>
	<b>Item deferred to November.</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Mental Health Strategy</b>
	<p>DL shared the Mental Health Strategy presentation on behalf of Patrick Otway (Head of Commissioning, CCG).</p> <p>Current strategy was published prior to 2015. Ambition is that the new strategy will be concise and user friendly. Format of the document will highlight each priority, it’s related actions and how achievements will be reviewed to show impact. Dementia will be included in the new strategy.</p> <p>Delivery group in respect of the revised Mental Health Strategy has now been established and reports into the Mental Health Partnership.</p> <p>DL invited EHA group members to contribute into the delivery group as appropriate.</p> <p>There is an agreement at the Mental Health partnership level that the strategy will be in place from</p>

	<p>October 2021.</p> <p><b>Additional comments/questions</b></p> <p>RP – noted that once the strategy was finalised it would be shared with residents of the borough, this consultation will be seeking clarification on the easy read element and how user friendly it is.</p> <p>WL – noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of a joint up approach against the required outcomes of the strategy moving forward.</li> <li>• That leaders were required to come together and agree where the responsibility sat against each area.</li> </ul> <p>The chair emphasised the importance of this board to be sighted of actions that was required from the Mental Health Partnership and the value of joint working on this significant agenda.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Forward Plan</b>
	<p>The chair reviewed draft plan and noted the high number of proposed items scheduled for the next meeting 11.11.2021. It was agreed that for the partnership to remain focus and effective agendas needs to be developed to suit boards meeting lasting no longer than 1hr – 1.15 hour per session.</p> <p>JH confirmed that the following items could be removed: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aids and Adaptations</li> <li>- Implementing the Armed Forces Covenant</li> <li>- Safe and Well Checks</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION – SB to review forward plan in respect of the next board, taking in to account time restraints.</b></p>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>
	<p>No items.</p>
<b>Future Meetings</b>	
<p>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 14.00 – 16.00, Microsoft Teams</p>	