



Fells and Solway Community Panel Update

Meeting Date – 14 March 2024

Lead Officer - Paul Musgrave

1.0 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 The report updates this Community Panel on recent activity by Cumberland Council within this Community Panel area.
- 1.2 The work of the Community Panel contributes to the achievement of the Council Plan 2023 - 2027 vision:
 - Cumberland Council takes a fresh approach to the delivery of inclusive services that are shaped by our residents and communities.
 - By enabling positive outcomes for health and wellbeing, prosperity and the environment we will fulfil the potential of our people and our area.
- 1.3 The Council Plan aims to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents through the following priorities:
 - Addressing inequalities
 - Local economies that work for local people
 - Environmental resilience and the climate emergency
 - Delivering excellent public services
- 1.4 This Community Panel has also identified the following priorities for this panel area which are:
 - Community infrastructure
 - Community safety and rural crime
 - Highways and transport issues

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Members note the contents of the report.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 This report sets out the activity that has taken place within this Community Panel area in the last quarter that has been led or supported by Cumberland Council. It also makes reference to consultations that are Cumberland wide or specific to this area.
- 3.2 This Community Panel covers the wards of Aspatria, Dalston and Burgh, Solway Coast, Thursby, and Wigton.

Network Events

Cummersdale

- 3.3 Raise: Cumbria Community Forest held a drop-in engagement event at Cummersdale Village Hall on 15 January, attended by the local member for Dalston and Burgh and the CDO. Residents received a letter prior to the session explaining about the plans for tree planting on a site at Cummersdale which is being developed in partnership with Cumberland Council and Raise. Residents were also invited to complete the online survey which ran from 13 December to 17 January and to come along to the drop-in where they had a chance to speak to representatives from Raise and Cumberland Council.
- The drop-in and survey resulted in an overall positive response to the proposed tree planting and some useful information was gathered to help hone Raise's approach.

Bowness-on-Solway

- 3.4 The local member for the Solway Coast and CDO attended the Lindow Hall warm space monthly lunch on 17 January. During a previous visit by the CDO to the warm space, residents reported that they were unaware of what services and support were available to them. This resulted in the CDO arranging for several organisations to attend the January warm space. Representatives from Citizen Advice Allerdale, Carer Support West Cumbria, Cumberland Libraries, Cumberland Waste Prevention along with the Health and Wellbeing Coach and NHS Living Well Coach for the area were able to give useful information, support, and advice to those attending.

Kirkbride

- 3.5 The Patient Participation Group and staff from the Croft Surgery, Kirkbride held a Spring into Health Event on 9 March at Kirkbride Primary School. Cumberland Council's Plan 2023- 2027 has a key focus on prevention and early intervention and highlights in particular the health inequalities experienced by those living in rural and coastal communities. The Spring into Health event was designed to support these important issues at a very local level by providing information, advice, and fun activities. It also gave an opportunity for the community to learn more about improving their own health (alcohol awareness, diabetes, mental health etc.) and find out about a range of local support services.

- 3.6 The Fells and Solway Community Panel’s priorities run alongside Cumberland Council’s aim of improving the health and wellbeing of their residents. As part of the panel’s community network engagement, the CDO and panel members attended this Health and Wellbeing drop-in, where they were able to speak to the community about the Community Panel, their priorities for investment and how community groups can apply for investment, and the role of co-opted panel members.

Libraries Update

- 3.7 In the libraries across this panel area, weekly Lego Clubs have been reintroduced. This is a great way to develop creativity, problem solving and critical thinking. Details of where and when the clubs take place can be found on Cumberland Libraries website.
- 3.8 A monthly What’s On libraries guide has been successfully introduced so customers, partner organisations and other service providers can see at a glance what groups and events are taking place that month. It is available in print in branches and electronically via a mailing list. Anyone who’d like to be added to the mailing list should contact workington.library@cumberland.gov.uk The February edition that relates to the branch libraries in this community panel area is attached at **Appendix 1** to give members an insight into the type of information provided and the range of activities across libraries.
- 3.9 February Half Term saw a host of activities for children. To help ease the financial burden on parents, the annual World Book Day costume swaps combined with World Book Day themed activities took place in Silloth and Wigton.

Update on Co-opted Member recruitment

- 3.10 The original proposed timeframe for implementing the co-opted members is as shown below.

Report to Council Executive	3 October 2023
Report to Community Panels to set out the framework as agreed by the Executive and obtain agreement to recruit	Community Panel meetings for December 2023 / January 2024 tranche
Recruitment process	January / February 2024
Report to Community Panels to confirm recruitment of co-opted members for the year 2024-2025	Community Panel meetings for March 2024 tranche
Co-opted members in place (induction) and attending Community Panel meetings	Community Panel meetings for June 2024 tranche

- 3.11 There was some delay in starting the process although it is now well underway and the application process is open and being advertised. The closing date for applications

was 29 February and the next stage of the process has been developed with consideration being given to the number of applications.

- 3.12 The process is fully supported by officers and arrangements have been made so that the final decision regarding appointments rests with each panel. The option is to appoint **up to** three co-opted Members per panel, although a panel could decide to elect one, two, three or none.
- 3.13 Membership will be ratified at the June meetings and the co-opted members will be invited to that meeting to take up their place.

Active Cumbria

Street Tag

- 3.14 On 3 January 2024, the previous school based programme was relaunched with a whole new format. The previous locality leader boards were merged to match the two new unitary authorities, and it was opened up to include more settings other than just schools. Workplaces, community organisations, sports clubs, and families etc., are now all able to create teams and compete on one of the two leader boards. Season 1 of the new programme finished on the 13 March 2024, so Active Cumbria will be able to share the results and outcomes of that first season in at a future meeting. 36 schools and other organisations from across Cumberland are engaging in this year's programme so far.

Bikeability

- 3.15 Bikeability training has been delivered in the following schools in this panel area:
- Silloth Primary School – 20 pupils in Year 5, 22 pupils in Year 4
 - Blennerhasset School – 7 Pupils in Year 5, 13 Pupils in Year 6
 - Rosley C of E School – 11 Pupils in Year 6
 - Plumbland C of E Primary School – 6 Pupils in Year 5, 7 Pupils in Year 6 (Plumbland C of E School have also attended the Active Start training this academic year)
 - Burgh by Sands School – 13 Pupils in Year 5
 - St Cuthberts Catholic Primary School – 8 Pupils in Year 5

Ramblers Wellbeing Walks

- 3.16 Two Walk Leader (WL) training sessions (Jul 23 and Jan 24) have been delivered at Distington this financial year with 16 attendees from across the former Allerdale/Copeland areas.
- 3.17 Currently there are the following Wellbeing Walks taking place organised through NCIC:
- Wigton Wellbeing Walk (Monthly)
 - Silloth Wellbeing Walk (Weekly)
 - Kirkbride Wellbeing Walk (Weekly)
 - 'Easy' and 'Harder' Wigton Food Pantry Walks (Bi-weekly)
 - Blraithwaite House Wellbeing Walk (Monthly)
 - Aspatria Wellbeing Walk (Bi-weekly)

3.18 There are also the following Wellbeing Walks taking place organised through Watchtree:

- Wellbeing Walks (Weekly)
- Active Over 65's (Twice Weekly)

Appendix 2 shows wellbeing walks available across the former Allerdale area.

Local Focus Hub Update

3.19 The purpose of the Local Focus Hubs (LFH) is to coordinate partner agencies, establishing clear and productive relationships with key partners from statutory, secondary and third tier and voluntary groups. The aim of the LFH is to:

- Improve community safety and tackle difficult and long-term problems where a single organisation has explored all options and requires a partnership approach.
- Lead on community safety initiatives and reduce the fear of ASB and Crime.
- Identify emerging trends and look at initiatives to prevent and reduce ASB and Crime in partnership and collaboration.

3.20 There are three established Local Focus Hubs in Cumberland Council. Each geographically aligned with the neighbourhood policing teams of Carlisle and Wigton, Derwent and Esk. Each hub is based in co-located offices with easy access offering partners the opportunity to work and collaborate with LFH staff.

- The LFH servicing the former Allerdale area is in Allerdale House and shares office space with Housing Locations, Environmental Health and Licensing
- Each LFH has a Police Officer Hub Coordinator allocated, who is responsible for the day-to-day management of referrals received from partners.

Operating Model

3.21 Problems are referred into the hub by any partner agency signed up to the information sharing agreement. A referral can relate to an individual, a family, a business, or organisation. The issue referred could be concerning crime and disorder, health and wellbeing, environmental, housing and many other areas of work.

3.22 There is an online referral form containing a series of risk assessment-based questions which produce a grading. Each referral is then managed through an established problem-solving model.

Partners

3.23 Each Hub manages referrals in the same way, with each Hub having slightly different partners depending on the needs of the community.

3.24 Each LFH manager works alongside the neighbourhood policing team's Inspector which provides a lead on collaborative partnership work with:

- Community Sergeants, Community Beat Officers, Police Community Support officers, Child Centred Policing Teams, Police Mental Health team, Youth offending and Crime Prevention.
- Cumbria Fire and Rescue, NHS Services including Addiction and Mental Health services, Multi-Disciplinary Teams (Vulnerable service users living in the community), MARAC (Multi-agency risk assessment conference), Environment Agency, British Transport Police, Immigration.
- Local Authority – Environmental Health, Licensing, Enforcement, Legal, Planning, Homelessness Team, Greenspaces, Highways, Education, HAWCs, Trading Standards
- Social Housing partners from Riverside, Castles and Coasts, Home Group, My Spaces, Home Group, Westfield Housing and other smaller housing providers are key partners who we work with daily.
- Remedi (Mediation service and support for victims of ASB), Victim Support. Youth Organisations, Youth Offending, Age Concern, Business crime reduction group, Cumbria Family Support and many others.

An overview of Local Focus Hub initiatives is at **Appendix 3**.

Borderland Place Programme

- 3.25 A Place Programme was established under the County Council for Wigton, to benefit from Borderlands funding. There has been a delay across all three programmes across Cumberland but a Restart meeting is being arranged to take the programme in Wigton to the next level. As part of this, the Terms of Reference for the Town Team will be reviewed and the Town Team will start to meet on a regular basis to see schemes come to fruition.

Support Leaflet

- 3.26 The 'Christmas Support' leaflet has been updated and rebranded 'Winter Support'. The new version is at **Appendix 4**.

Consultations

Family Wellbeing Transformation

- 3.27 Cumberland Council are looking to transform their Family Wellbeing services to better meet the needs of children, young people and families in Cumberland. Their vision is that every child grows up in a nurturing and supportive environment, surrounded by love and a strong community which enables them to thrive. By prioritising children and family wellbeing, they can create a brighter future for generations to come.
- 3.28 In the Fells and Solway Panel area, the engagement event took place at Wigton Library on 5 February 2024. Additional engagement sessions took place in Workington,

Egremont and Whitehaven libraries and in Brampton and Harraby community centres during February.

- 3.29 The drop-ins offered the public an opportunity to share their views, ask questions and speak to Elected Members and staff. Members of the public were also invited to complete the Family Wellbeing in Cumberland survey.
- 3.30 The survey, which closes on 15 March 2024, can be found online at <https://consult.cumberland.gov.uk/children-and-family-wellbeing/children-and-family-wellbeing-services/>

Waste Collection Review

- 3.31 Cumberland Council are inviting residents to have their say and play a key role in developing the future of Cumberland's Waste Services.
- 3.32 Following the Local Government Reorganisation, there is a need to streamline current collections, ensuring a uniform service across the Cumberland area. This will ensure waste will be collected consistently in a sustainable, effective and efficient way.
- 3.33 As part of the Cumberland Council's commitment to meeting the needs of residents, fulfilling the council plan, and complying with legislation, the Council is embarking on a comprehensive review of waste services.
- 3.34 In addition to drop-in roadshows detailed below, there is an online survey.

16 February	9.30am – 12.30pm	Egremont Farmers Market
21 February	3.30pm – 6.30pm	Longtown Community Centre
24 February	10am – 2pm	Workington Market
24 February	11am – 3pm	Carlisle Library
28 February	10am – 2pm	Tesco in Millom
4 March	3.30pm – 6.30pm	Brampton Community Centre
8 March	10am – 2pm	Wigton Market
13 March	10am – 2pm	Booths Keswick
16 March	10am – 3pm	Whitehaven Entrepreneurs Market

- 3.35 The Roadshows presented an opportunity to interact with council staff, discuss waste services, learn about ways to enhance recycling habits and obtain a paper copy of the survey.

4.0 Options

Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 No other options considered as this report is to note only.

Risks

4.2 The associated corporate risk is as follows:

There is a risk that the Community Panels and Community Networks do not effectively engage with and/or represent the views of local residents, partners, businesses and third sector organisations.

4.3 The activities outlined in this report and the associated recommendations help to mitigate this risk. There are no further risks associated with this report.

Consultation

4.4 There has been no consultation associated with the recommendations of this report.

Legal Comment

4.5 No legal issues arise directly from the report. Any legal issues arising from the delivery of specific projects will be dealt with as they arise.

Finance Comment

4.6 The Fells & Solway Community Panel is one of 8 Community Panels which are funded from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund which is part of Communities and Localities within the Public Health and Communities Directorate.

4.7 The 2023/24 budget allocation to the Fells & Solway Community Panel is £60,727.
S Morris 21/02/2024

Impact Assessments

4.8 An impact Assessment has not been used.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 - Library Activities

Appendix 2 - Ramblers Wellbeing Walks

Appendix 3 - Local Focus Hub

Appendix 4 - Winter Support Leaflet