



Whitehaven and Coastal 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:
 - A Local Environment where individuals, households and communities can live well and thrive.
 - Better Health and Wellbeing for all.
 - Addressing inequalities through improved access to services and opportunities.
 - A Local Economy that is thriving and benefits everyone.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 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 Bransty, Egremont North and St Bees, Hillcrest and Hensingham, Howgate, Kells and Sandwith and Mirehouse.

Network Activity

3.3 A Community Network event was held on 13 February 2024.

3.4 Representatives of local Town and Parish Councils, together with local organisations were asked to further discuss the Whitehaven and Coastal priorities and the Neighbourhood Investment Plan.

3.5 The discussions held supported the overarching Community Panel priorities, and ensured that the areas of focus identified at the initial community consultations and the first Community Network event. The event on 13 February 2024 looked at specific topics and themes locally.

3.6 Feedback received at Network events and through the questionnaire evidenced that one of the most important areas requiring improvement in the Community Panel area is play parks.

3.7 An action has been taken to engage teams in Cumberland Council. This will gain an insight into any current plans in place for reviews or improvements to play parks in the panel area and to identify where the Community Panel can support with this. .

Co-opted Members

3.8 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

- 3.9 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 is 29 February 2024 and next stage of the process has been developed with consideration being given to the number of applications. The process is fully supported by officers and arrangements have been made so that the final decision regarding appointments rests with each panel.
- 3.10 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.
- 3.11 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

Programme Delivery - Outputs and Progress

Street Tag

- 3.12 On 3 January 2024, the previous school based programme was relaunched with a new format.
- 3.13 The previous locality leader boards were merged to match the two new unitary authorities. In addition to schools Street Tag now includes workplaces, community organisations, sports clubs, and families. These groups can now create teams and compete on one of the two leader boards.
- 3.14 Active Cumbria are now seeking people to become team captains to create teams for their respective settings.
- 3.15 Season 1 of the new programme finishes on the 13 March 2024. Active Cumbria will then share the results and outcomes of that first season.
- 3.16 To date 36 Schools and organisations from across Cumberland are engaging in this years programme.

Active Travel to School -Bikeability

- 3.17 Training has been delivered in the following school in the panel area: .

- Valley Primary School and Nursery – 13 pupils in year 5
- Lowca Community School – 6 pupils in year 5 and 4 pupils in year 6
- St James' CofE Junior School – 23 pupils in year 6
- Hensingham Primary School – 20 pupils in year 4 and 10 pupils in year 6
- Jericho Primary School – 53 pupils in year 6
- Monkway Junior School – 14 pupils in year 6
- Bransty Primary School – 20 pupils in year 6

Active Start

- 3.18 Distington Community School, Moor Row Primary School and Mayfield School have undertaken Active Start training for Early Years this academic year.

Ramblers Wellbeing Walks

- 3.19 Two Walk Leader training sessions were delivered in July 2023 and in January 2024 at Distington, with 16 attendees from across the former Allerdale and Copeland areas.

Wellbeing Walks

- 3.20 Are taking place in the following areas:

- Copeland Wellness Service in Whitehaven and Egremont – (Weekly)
- Egremont Amblers (Weekly)
- St. Bees Wellbeing Walks Abbey Wood & St. Bees Beach (Weekly)

Active Lives Survey

- 3.21 Following LGR this data is now collected on a unitary authority footprint and not a district footprint, as it was done previously. This means less schools are randomly selected to participate meaning the data is much more generalised across the unitary area.

Cumbria PE Network meetings

- 3.22 Active Cumbria's Physical Education Network meetings are termly meetings and include Continued Professional Development input from a keynote speaker, county updates and breakout rooms for the locality areas.

3.23 Children and Young Peoples conference

'Physical Activity and Movement – The Curriculum and Beyond!' took place on Thursday 7 March 2024 at North Lakes Hotel, Penrith. A range of guest speakers and schools shared best practice and participated in three workshops.

- 3.24 **Cumbria School games** -five county events took place in 2023 covering both Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness. 1044 participants were involved as well as 175 young leaders. Planning is well underway for 2024 events.

- 3.25 **Activate kits for Warm hubs** – Active Cumbria held an Activate training session in June 2023 at the Whitehaven United Reform Church where 16 people attended from a variety of organisations. Five Activate Bags were distributed through the Warm Hub funding in March 2023. The organisations are now sharing their kits with other community groups to ensure more people benefit from using the games equipment. The kits are held by Whitehaven URC, Florence Arts Centre, Skills4U Cleator Moor, Beckermeth Reading Rooms and Millom Network Centre.

Local Focus Hub Update

- 3.26 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.

3.27 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 former Copeland area LFH is in Whitehaven Police Station
- 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

3.28 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.

3.29 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

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

3.31 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.

3.32 An overview of Local Focus Hub initiatives is at **appendix 1**.

Libraries Update

- 3.33 Whitehaven Library continues to offer a wide range of services to library members and customers in the general locality, supplemented by a programme of varied activities and sessions. Libraries nationally work to support the delivery of 'Universal Offers' and the Whitehaven Library programme endeavours to reflect these. The Universal Offers are: Children's Promise; Reading; Information and Digital; Vision and print Impaired People's Promise; Health and Wellbeing; Culture and Creativity. .
- 3.34 February Half Term saw a range of activities aimed at children – including costume swaps ahead of World Book Day, to help not only with the financial burden on parents but help address unnecessary waste. Wordsworth Grasmere were on site offering the ever popular Rucksack of Rhymes sessions.
- 3.35 The regular offer for young families has been adjusted for the new year with weekly Storytots now on Thursdays at 2pm, and Saturdays featuring a 'Storycise' session at 10.30am.
- 3.36 The Storycise concept features staff led sessions with stories read out and the actions followed by adults and children. The programme was developed by two experienced children's physiotherapists and is aimed at preschool and reception children, to help develop their foundation movement skills.
- 3.37 The Library is offering increased touch-down time for staff from Family Hubs to engage with customers. In February, it hosted a consultation event for the Council's Family Wellbeing Programme.
- 3.38 Arts Out West are working in partnership with Cumberland Libraries to bring high quality professional performances of music, drama and dance into our libraries. This is a renewed partnership for Whitehaven Library, after a hiatus after COVID. This cultural aspect of library work recommenced with an evening of stories and songs exploring the enduring power of place, performed by Jessie McMeekin and Dave Camlin in 'The Long Way Home'.

Planting for Pollinators, Cumbria Wildlife Trust

- 3.39 Cumbria Wildlife Trust have been working with Cumberland Council to identify suitable areas where native plant species can be planted, to encourage a range of insects and wildlife into the area, as well as improving the way the area looks.
- 3.40 In the last 50 years, evidence suggests that the UK insect population has decreased by around 50% and this is due to the loss of a rich flower habitat. The project aims to help address the issue by helping to re-instate flower rich habitats within the landscape.
- 3.41 Cumbria Wildlife Trust have gained funding from Cumberland Council and Fibrus to be able to do the planting and Cumbria Wildlife Trust have worked closely with Cumberland Council and local residents to find the best places for the plants to go. The project encourages local residents to get involved with the planning and the planting too.
- 3.42 A planting session is planned next to The Beacon on the 16 March 2024. This planting session is open to all.
- 3.43 Cumbria Wildlife Trust were introduced to Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project by the Community Development Officer, to ensure that young people had the opportunity to learn more about the diverse benefits of planting for pollinators.
- 3.44 A planting session together with the young people will take place on 23 March 2024 in Whitehaven.
- 3.45 Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Cumberland Council's Open Spaces Team, members of Bransty Residents Group and the Elected Member for Bransty, Councillor Joseph Ghayouba have conducted a site visit to the Bransty area to identify further suitable areas for planting.

Support Leaflet

- 3.46 The 'Christmas Support' leaflet has been updated and rebranded 'Winter Support'. The new version is at **appendix 2**.

Consultations

Family Wellbeing Transformation

- 3.47 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.
- 3.48 In the Whitehaven and Coastal Panel area an engagement event took place at Whitehaven library on Thursday 22 February 2024. Further engagement events took place at Egremont Library Thursday 22 February 2024, Workington and Wigton

libraries on Monday 5 February 2024, and Brampton and Harraby community centres on Wednesday 28 February 2024.

- 3.49 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.
- 3.50 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

- 3.51 Cumberland Council are inviting residents to have their say and play a key role in developing the future of Cumberland's Waste Services.
- 3.52 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.
- 3.53 As part of the Cumberland Council's commitment to meeting the needs of residents, fulfilling the council plan, and complying with legislation, we are embarking on a comprehensive review of waste services.
- 3.54 In addition to drop-in roadshows detailed below, there is an online survey that can be accessed here: [either completing an online survey](#).

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

- 3.55 During these roadshows, people have the 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 Whitehaven and Coastal 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 Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel is £70,486.

S Morris 21/02/2024

Impact Assessments

4.8 An impact Assessment has not been used.

Contact Officer: Lee Thorburn Area Planning Manager

Appendices attached to report:

Appendix 1 Local Focus Hub

Appendix 2 Winter Support Leaflet

