



South Cumberland Community Panel Update

Meeting Date – 11 September 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:
 - Accessibility and connectivity
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Improving local living environment

- Supporting children, families, and young people

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members note the contents of the report.
- 2.2 To approve a Public Participation Scheme for this Panel – **appendix 1**
- 2.3 Members agree to the appointment of the local member to Cleator Moor Town Deal Board.
- 2.4 Members agree to all appointments to outside bodies in this report are for the term of the Council.

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. Where appropriate, it also makes reference to consultations that are Cumberland wide or specific to this area.
- 3.2 This Community Panel covers the wards of Cleator Moor East and Frizington, Cleator Moor West, Egremont, Gosforth, Millom and Millom Without.

4.0 Appointment to outside bodies

- 4.1 The Executive, at their meeting on 23 April 2024, delegated a number of appointments to outside bodies for this area to the Community Panel as set out below:

Outside body
Cleator Moor Town Deal Board

- 4.2 The report to the Executive advised that representation should usually be by the ward councillor for the area where the body is located.
- 4.3 Community Panel members are asked to agree that any appointments will be for the term of office.

5.0 Network Events and Network Activity

- 5.1 The Community Development Officer (CDO) for the South Cumberland Panel continues to attend a variety of local groups active in the South Cumberland Community Panel area.
- 5.2 The aim of these visits are to promote the work of the Panels, engage the community and encourage collaborative ways of working with partners and stakeholders.

Cleator Moor Town Deal

- 5.3 On 30th July 2024 the Community Development Officer supported the Capital Programmes team by attending the public consultation event in Cleator Moor Civic Hall.
- 5.4 The event focused on the Connecting Town element. The public had the opportunity to see plans and speak to the consultants, The Town Deal Board and Cumberland Council Officers to raise questions or feedback their comments by completing a survey.
- 5.5 This event enabled the CDO to have discussions and promote the role of the Community Panel to the people attending and also the partners involved.

Ennerdale Show

- 5.6 The Community Development Team attended the Ennerdale Agricultural Show on 28th August 2024 at the Leaps, Kirkland.
- 5.7 The team held a stall with information relating to Cumberland Council and used the opportunity to engage with the local community to talk about the Community Panels, priorities and neighbourhood investment fund.
- 5.8 People were asked to participate in a survey focusing on the South Cumberland Community Panel priority of improving the local living environment which gathered information on outdoor activities. This is with the aim of hosting a workshop in the Autumn around Countryside Access to promote services and understand responsibilities as well as protecting the environment.

Operation Respect

- 5.9 Operation Respect events have been planned across Cumberland with an event held in the Beck Green area of Egremont on 31st July.
- 5.10 The events are planned and delivered by Local Focus Hubs partnerships set up to collaboratively tackle antisocial behaviour and improve community safety.
- 5.11 The Operation Respect events bring together residents, housing providers, the Police, Council, and several other agencies to help install pride in their local communities.
- 5.12 The event allowed households to dispose of unwanted items in the skips located on site for the day and included collection from houses if required as well as litter picking in the Beck Green area.
- 5.13 Over twenty different organisations were involved offering activities, information, health and wellbeing support, budgeting, crime prevention and a community clean-up with the aim of fostering good relations between communities and the authorities who serve them.
- 5.14 Operation Respect events allow residents to talk directly to agencies and organisations about concerns in their communities.

Digital Inclusion Group

- 5.15 CDO working with local community groups to help spread the word about Lets Get Digital – West Cumbria project. Digital Unite are delivering training for Digital Champions to support groups with themed sessions e.g. 'Safety Online' or 'Managing your health online/how to use the NHS app'

Other Activity

The Social Prescribing Family Fun and Wellness Event

- 5.16 This year the Family Fun and Wellness event organised by the Cumberland Social Prescribing Team was held on Friday 16th August at the Rugby ground in Whitehaven.
- 5.17 Members of the Community Development team were involved with the event both in the preparations and on the day itself.
- 5.18 This is a significant community event that offers fun activities and information involving 66 organisations with 17 providing family activities that attracted over 1500 visitors from all across the West Cumbria area.
- 5.19 The public can attend without charge and enjoy the activities due to the sponsorship and contributions from many of the organisations involved.

Make Your Mark

- 5.20 Make Your Mark is the largest youth consultation, giving young people aged 11-18yrs the opportunity to vote on the topics that are most important to them.
- 5.21 This year Cumberland young people voted Culture, Media and Sport as their top priority. Cumberland Youth Council will be taking this topic forward, campaigning, listening to what young people want and making change.

Topics	Results
Culture, Media & Sport	1182
Health & Wellbeing	1164
Jobs, the Economy & Benefits	1024
Crime & Safety	830
Climate Change & the Environment	572
Education & Learning	469
Transport	460
Rights, Equalities & Democracy	363
Youth Work & Young People's Services	227
International Relations	176
Total number of MYM votes recorded	6467

Cumberland Adult Learning update

- 5.22 The 2023/24 academic year finished on 31 July 2024. 342 learners were enrolled onto Skills provision, which includes GCSEs and Functional Skills in Maths and English, (ESOL) English for Speakers of Other Languages, Health and Wellbeing, and Digital courses.
- 5.23 In addition, 1205 learners were enrolled onto non-accredited digital, maths (funded via Multiply funding), languages, arts and crafts, and health and wellbeing courses during 2023/24. These courses enabled learners to acquire new skills and prepare for further training or employment.

- 5.24 The figures above also include provision delivered to 67 learners regarded as 'Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities' (LLDD), providing opportunities to learn new skills and develop their independence. In the Whitehaven area, we currently work with COSC in Cleator Moor, Hensingham Day Centre and Richmond Annex.
- 5.25 Most learners accessing face-to-face provision live in Whitehaven area and surrounding areas. Learners living across the county can access provision offered by Whitehaven Adult Learning via an online delivery platform.
- 5.26 Over the last academic year, Whitehaven Adult Learning have successfully created and delivered Wellbeing courses to partnerships within the community through Centres in Parton, Bigrigg, Red Lonning and Richmond. Also in sheltered housing associations in Egremont, Cleator Moor and Mirehouse.
- 5.27 Courses can help to improve confidence and social interaction, support and improve wellbeing, help individuals feel more able to cope with everyday life, reduce stress and anxiety levels and improve fitness and mobility. The wellbeing courses are a good foundation for learners, to support them back into learning and education. The courses also build confidence and self-esteem, avoid social isolation and encourage participants to engage in their local community.
- 5.28 New provision for the 2024/25 academic year went 'live' on 1 August 2024. Brochures were sent to every home in Cumbria from 5 August 2024.
- 5.29 During the summer months learning opportunities continued for ESOL learners, offering various workshops covering spelling and grammar, arts and crafts, and language acquisition through games.
- 5.30 Adult Learning now has access to the Multiply programme. A government initiative to help transform the lives of adults across the UK which is being delivered through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Cumbria has been allocated £2.3 million to be used over three years. The free numeracy courses are for Cumbrian residents aged 19 plus, individuals that have not achieved a maths GCSE of at least a Grade C or equivalent, individuals who may want to develop numeracy skills for work or progression and individuals that want to improve their numeracy skills for everyday life. People who improve their numeracy skills are more likely to be in employment, have higher wages, and better wellbeing, and will be more able to progress to higher levels of free training to secure a skilled job in our economy.
- 5.31 Whitehaven Adult Learning now offer free Skills courses to employers, providing huge benefits to their organisation. Learning and development in the workplace motivate and upskills the team and the organisation benefits in terms of efficiency, morale, and staff retention.
- 5.32 Details of the provision is available here: <https://adultlearningcumbria.org/>.

Citizens Advice – Copeland

- 5.33 A summary of the support provided to the residents of the former Allerdale area from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 is at **appendix 2**.

6.0 Options

Alternative Options Considered

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

Risks

- 6.2 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.

- 6.3 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

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

Legal Comment

- 6.5 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

- 6.6 The South Cumberland 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.
- 6.7 The 2024/25 budget allocation to the South Cumberland Community Panel is £64,523.

Impact Assessments

- 6.8 An impact Assessment has not been used.

Contact Officer: Lizzy Shaw, Senior Manager - Community Services

Appendices attached to report:

Appendix 1 – Public Participation

Appendix 2 – Citizens Advice report