

**REPORT FROM:** NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

**TO:** SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT TEAM

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## THEMATIC GROUPS ANNUAL REPORT

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update on progress of the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Thematic Groups – June 2016 – June 2017 and note barriers to delivery.

### Background

1. When the (LSP) structure was disbanded in 2013, it was agreed that the main theme groups which delivered the Pendle Sustainable Communities Strategy continue and report progress to the Council's Executive, in recognition that partnership working is key in delivering the Council's Strategic Objectives. This report will summarise progress since the last report to the Executive in August 2016. Each of these theme areas impact on each other to a varying degree and work in one area can have a direct or indirect benefit in another. We need to be constantly alert to these linkages, encouraging joint working across Council departments at all levels and between partners.

### 2. Health & Wellbeing

#### *Lancashire and South Cumbria Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP)*

- 2.1 The health and wellbeing economy remained in transition throughout 2016/17 as the Healthier Lancashire & South Cumbria programme continued to develop and endeavor to shape integration and future models of care.
- 2.2 Members received a presentation on the Lancashire & Cumbria Sustainability & Transformation Plan and the Pennine Lancashire developments in December 2016 where, amongst other matters, concerns were raised about a perceived lack of Member engagement in the process. This was further reiterated at a number of engagement events facilitated by the Healthier Lancashire & South Cumbria Transformation Team.
- 2.3 Pennine Lancashire, as one of the five, distinct Local Health and Care Economies, is developing a place-based transformation plan (known as a Local Delivery Plan), with a particular focus on integration and new models of care. This process is supported by the

System Leaders' Forum, with Pendle's Leader, Cllr Iqbal and Dean Langton nominated as the district representatives on the Pennine Lancashire Forum.

- 2.4. The upper tier authorities (i.e. those with Health & Wellbeing powers) have agreed in principle to a single pan-Lancashire Health & Wellbeing Board (HWBB) to better drive service integration and health improvement. This will be supported by five local area health and wellbeing partnerships, based on the five local health economy footprints referred to above. However, it is not yet clear how these Partnerships will align to the emerging STP and LDP structures, nor what the membership will be. Further details will be announced as and when these become available.
- 2.5 With the developing, new health economy for Pennine Lancashire, we need to determine how best we can influence developments. We also need to support the commissioning process as an identifier of local needs and use our expertise in a multitude of public health areas to be a potential provider, partner and sub-commissioner of public health interventions.
- 2.6 The recently formed Pendle Community Health & Wellbeing Partnership, initiated jointly by East Lancashire CCG and PBC to drive local public sector reform and health improvements in Pendle, could provide a local delivery mechanism. Emerging Pendle priorities from the inaugural meeting include:
- Building Community Resilience
  - Engaging with young people on key health issues
  - Mental health- particularly ESA claimants with mental health issues

### ***Pendle Dementia Action Alliance (Pendle DAA)***

- 2.7 We continue to support Pendle DAA in their work to create dementia friendly communities. 2016/17 achievements include:
- Revising the Pendle DAA Action Plan
  - 3 public awareness sessions (held in Nelson, Colne and Barnoldswick). All were well received with 2 of the 3 events exceeding capacity and very positive feedback received from attendees.
  - Revised support resources, including a new leaflet on financial and legal matters.
  - Fundraising to support the work of the DAA
  - The roll out of Dementia Friendly recognition scheme
  - Dementia Friends sessions delivered to taxi drivers as part of the wider Safeguarding programme.
  - Winner of the East Lancashire CCG Locality Recognition Award for raising awareness of dementia in the locality.
  - Exploring opportunities for joint working with Burnley DAA.

### ***Building community resilience***

- 2.8. An Employee Volunteering & Skill Sharing Policy has been developed in recognition of the role volunteering can play in strengthening community resilience. Through the PMR process, we now offer the opportunity for employees to volunteer within work time (up to 15 hours per year) to help staff enhance and develop their skills and abilities, potentially improving their performance at an individual and team level and ultimately improving wellbeing and strengthening communities.

- 2.9 We are working with the time credit organisation, SPICE, to develop a time credit scheme for Pendle/ East Lancashire. As a first step, Pendle Leisure Trust is now one of the spend partners, enabling future volunteers to exchange their time credits for a number of PLT services.

### **3. Children & Young People**

#### ***Burnley and Pendle Children's Partnership Board***

- 3.1 The Board brings local agencies together to support effective collaboration in the development and delivery of services to children and their families. It sits beneath the County-wide Children and Young People's Trust, and is a means by which local priorities can be influenced by local people.
- 3.2 It has focused on its action plan priorities over the last year via the sub-groups:
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) – awareness;
  - Family Learning

#### ***Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)***

- 3.3 The sub-group meets immediately after Pendle Youth Forum as it involves many of the same services.
- 3.4 The BME needs assessment has concluded. Led by Lancashire BME Network, this piece of work was commissioned to help to understand the views of CSE in the BME community. The BME Network worked with a number of local groups across Pendle and Burnley and conducted various workshops to encourage discussion and to raise awareness of CSE. The work concluded with a drama piece illustrating the key issues surrounding CSE.
- 3.5 The Burnley and Pendle CSE group merged with the Hyndburn, Ribble Valley and Rossendale CSE group to form an East Lancashire CSE Group. It has been in place to provide a link between strategic plans and district delivery. It has a local action plan to support the delivery of the pan-Lancashire CSE Strategy and Action Plan. The group hasn't met for some time due to staffing changes and to gain direction from a strategic perspective. There have been a number of staffing changes in Lancashire County Council Children's Social Care CSE team and the Engage (East Lancashire multi-agency CSE team) including a number of additions to the team.
- 3.6 A discussion has taken place between Pendle and Burnley district councils and CSE leads at LCC to identify current practice and structures.

#### ***Family Learning***

- 3.7 The Family Learning sub-group, which originated in Burnley, now also has good Pendle representation. Work is ongoing to bring family learning into services, for example, providing books in waiting areas. Wider initiatives such as Bookstart and Lancashire Reading Journey are also supported by partners on the sub-group.
- 3.8 The sub-group recently submitted a bid to the Big Lottery Reaching Communities fund, for a project regarding early years and 'school readiness'. The broad aim was to join up preschool activity via Children's Centres and nurseries with schools in the period before children start school in Reception class, to engage with and support children and families to be 'school ready'. Unfortunately the bid was unsuccessful, so alternative funding sources are being investigated. The potential to deliver some elements of the project through key

partners such as Lancashire Adult Learning and to link up with the Pendle Challenge work and other partners is currently being pursued.

### ***Future of Burnley and Pendle Children's Partnership Board***

- 3.9 The Board last met on 6th June 2017 where it was outlined that Lancashire County Council are currently reviewing the Lancashire Children's Trust and Children's Partnership Boards. It is unclear how this is being taken forward, and partners requested that local Boards are involved to help maintain a local involvement to any new structures going forward.

## **4. Economic Development**

### ***Vision Board***

- 4.1 Over the last 12 months the Pendle Vision Board has continued with its aim of promoting the economic wellbeing of the borough and enhancing the quality of life in Pendle. The group represents the best of the borough's business people to offer one voice to represent the private sector of Pendle. The last year has seen the Board focus on new business support opportunities, job creation, lobbying for investment and supporting training and skills development. Once again this year saw the Board welcoming new business members.
- 4.2 The Vision Board meetings give an opportunity for Members to discuss business conditions in the light of major events such as the EU referendum. Businesses have generally been upbeat and positive about their progress over the last 12 months. Whilst the continued weakness of the pound has meant rising import costs for some, the upside has been an increase in exports leading to continued business growth for many.
- 4.3 Generally, each Vision Board meeting covers a theme. Topics which have been covered during the last 12 months include updates on **the Pendle Jobs and Growth Strategy**, together with regional and national economic growth plans. This included an update on the Northern Powerhouse and the big issues around transport and east/west connectivity; recent investment in improvements at Junction 12 and 13 of the M65 creating capacity for job growth at a number of sites; new housing developments; Growth Deal investment in the borough; the plans for Northlight; and an update on progress regarding the potential Lancashire Combined Authority. Such updates are always welcomed and valued by the businesses.
- 4.4 A focus on the **skills agenda** has also remained high. This year the Vision Board has responded to consultation on the **Area Based Review of Colleges and Sixth Form Colleges in Lancashire**. They have also had presentations on the new, national **Enterprise Advisor Network**, which seeks to improve careers and enterprise advice and activities within schools by engaging employers to work with schools and colleges to develop careers and enterprise plans. A couple of Vision Board members have volunteered to act as **Enterprise Advisors** and have been working alongside head teachers to develop plans at a couple of Pendle secondary schools. Other Vision Board members have supported some of the activities within those plans by going into the schools and working with the students for planned sessions. The Vision Board has also received presentations regarding the new **Apprenticeship Levy** and the implications of this for businesses.
- 4.5 In addition, the Vision Board supported the annual **Work Inspiration** event in February 2017. Work Inspiration is a 1 day event to provide students with an all-inclusive, business led opportunity to explore possible careers. Approximately 900 pupils attended from Pendle schools together with 24 local businesses.

- 4.6 The Vision Board also supported the **Focus on Your Business week** in October 2016. This is an annual event which hosts workshops to support and target businesses from start-up stage right through to sector leading companies. The week involved 13 different events/workshops with approximately 250 delegates attending. The week was very well received and a similar week-long event is being planned for October 2017.
- 4.7 This year the Vision Board has supported the development of a **promotional film** for Pendle which highlights some of the great companies we have in Pendle and showcases the borough as a great place to do business, to live and to work. The film has been well received and Vision Board members have said they will help to promote it via their own company websites. The video is available to view at [www.pendle.gov.uk/vision](http://www.pendle.gov.uk/vision) an extended version of the film, more suited to the visitor economy, is also being shown at the visitor information point in the café at Boundary Mill.
- 4.8 The Pendle Vision Board is now complemented by **Pendle Connects**; a new initiative for Pendle based businesses and those doing business in Pendle. Pendle Connects events are held quarterly. They involve a guest panel of experts debating a particular topic, with an opportunity for business networking before and after. Two events have been held to date discussing the digital sector and the issue of skills. Both have proved popular and further events are planned.

### ***Future challenges***

- 4.9 There are a range of issues which will present challenges for the Pendle economy including for example:-
- uncertainty posed by Brexit,
  - limited land for business growth / quality employment space,
  - poor transport networks, especially congestion at the end of the M65,
  - shortage of high level skills, particularly in the digital sector.
- 4.10 Work is currently underway to review the Council's Jobs and Growth Strategy and these issues, amongst others, will

## **5. Community Safety**

### ***Pendle Community Safety Partnership***

- 5.1 The Community Safety Partnership has met four times since the last report. We have continued to collaborate within the Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Steering Group. Colne Community Safety Area Working group has continued to address local community safety issues and to a lesser extent Area Committees have included local community issues in their agendas.

### ***Current Crime and Disorder Trends***

- 5.2 An overview of crime and disorder has shown a continued rise in all types of crime within the Borough and this reflects increases across Lancashire. A recent consultation event held by the Pennine Lancashire Partnership showed crime was going up across East Lancashire at a faster rate than Lancashire as a whole. There were 5400 more incidents reported to the police, MARAC (high level repeat domestic Violence cases) are at unprecedented levels and there was a statistically significant increase in violence which could not be attributed to improvements in recording practices. More analytical work has been requested to understand the causes driving these increases.

5.3 The position at the year to April shows crime on the increase year on year:-

Crime	April 2016 - March 2017	April 2015 March 2016	+/-	%
All Crime	5791	5247	+544	+10.4%
Burglary *	336	303	+33	+10.9%
Violence against person	1496	1262	+234	+18.5%
Vehicle Crime	689	625	+64	+10.2%
ASB	4186	4200	-14	0%

5.4 From April to June 2017 compared with the same period last year sharp rises can be seen to continue – all crime has increased by 25% (1713 to 1367), burglary by 54% (61 to 94), and violence 27% (191 to 243).

5.5 On the Road Safety front across East Lancs there have been some improvements in the numbers Killed or Seriously Injured overall and those involving children – 8 and 9 year lows respectively. However of those involving children  $\frac{3}{4}$  s of them are pedestrians.

5.6 Below is a summary of some of the other matters dealt with this year:-

- We have continued with our burglary reduction scheme albeit with limited funding
- Completed a review of Alley Gates in the Borough ahead of an application to include them in a new Public Space Protection Order. (The vast majority of those consulted wanted to keep their gates.)
- Blackburn new CCTV hub now managing and monitoring cameras 24/7 in Nelson, Brierfield Barnoldswick and Earby. We are in the process of upgrading cameras in Nelson and Brierfield to digital and wireless and site visits have taken place and the work should commence shortly
- Working with Positive Action in the Community to retain additional Domestic Violence Services for young people (Look Out - funded until 2020 National Lottery) and support for the HAPPI project dealing with young homeless. The Domestic Violence Forum continues to provide a partner focus on DV in the Borough and deliver the DV Action Plan

### ***ASB – Community Protection and Victim Support***

5.7 We are currently carrying 30 ASBRAC cases with action plans with each case spending 3.7 months on the list. Transforming Lives, which targets high demand individuals very often with complex needs affecting a range of agencies, is becoming increasingly important and these cases are dealt with after the ASBRAC discussions. We are dependent upon good levels of engagement from our partners to resolve these issues .Future developments could include co-located teams which are being developed in other parts of East Lancashire.

5.8 The number of times we use the new ASB powers are increasing – very often the threat of a Community Protection Notice is enough to affect a change in the anti-social activity. Up to June 2017 we had used CPN legislation 209 times -29 cases were resolved after a warning, 84 before a warning letter with 58 under investigation. The workload is significant and is increasing. Mediation, using the SMILE organisation, is an integral part of resolving neighbour and other disputes and we continue a joint contract with Burnley BC with funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

## ***Organised Crime Groups***

- 5.9 We continue to use the PAM system to exchange information on Organised Crime Groups across East Lancs and in Pendle and have established a local GENGA panel to coordinate action locally.

## ***Road Safety***

- 5.10 We are working closely with the Pennine Lancs Casualty Reduction Working group and have collaborated with LCC on a campaign 'Let's Look Out for Each Other' which has now been launched. We want to emphasise the need for care from both motorists and parents and children to reduce child casualties. This complements our previous Road Safety Week (Nov 2016) initiatives on reducing speeding and improved driver behaviour. A range of safety initiatives in schools and messages on social and broadcast media will be part of the approach.
- 5.11 A lot of work has also gone into reducing serious accidents in young drivers -Wasted Lives in all secondary schools and the Safe Drive Stay Alive sessions to thousands of College and older young people have had a real impact. We worked with Nelson and Colne college to improve the take up of places to good effect .There is emerging evidence that the bulge in those KSI in motor vehicles is shifting to an older group of drivers (25-39 years).

## ***Scam Awareness - Protecting vulnerable, often elderly, people from Scams***

- 5.12 We are coordinating work in the Borough to establish a network of trained scam 'friends' who can disseminate information and awareness to vulnerable groups about how to recognise and resist an increasingly sophisticated and cynical targeting of vulnerable and often lonely victims . We are working closely with the Police and Crime Commissioner who champions vulnerable victims and with Lancashire Trading Standards: training events and awareness sessions have already taken place and will continue as will the recruitment of volunteers and organisations .We have a scam busters alert going out on Face Book.

## ***Community Cohesion Action and Prevent***

- 5.13 The CSP now receives feedback on both the implementation of the Prevent Duty which was introduced in the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and the delivery of community cohesion in the Borough. The Borough council now has a Statutory Duty to have due regard to prevent the individuals being drawn into terrorism – we have a compliance plan covering key areas and have already trained over 90% of staff to recognise and respond to signs that individuals are at risk . Special sessions for waste operatives to recognise specific activity linked to terror have taken place.
- 5.14 On Cohesion over the past year we have collaborated with Building Bridges who lead on the Good Neighbours Project which the Borough Council has matched funded over the next 4 years subject to a successful lotteries bid –decision by September. The Pendle Community Cohesion Action Network (CCAN) has been established together with the Pendle Faith Forum. The Action Network has met 5 times in the past year and has attracted a very good attendance from over 35 separate organisations. The aim is to provide a space to discuss local cohesion matters and develop a structured 'partnership' approach towards tackling some of the challenges we are facing. There have been a whole range of projects and events supported by the Network: the In Situ Community Banquet for 500 residents, Park High and Marsden Heights work with Primary Schools on Cohesion and 3 community conversation events are good examples. The Faith Forum has met 4 times and includes representatives

from all faith backgrounds – they were instrumental in holding a public discussion and commemoration in Market Place following on from the Manchester atrocity.

### ***Future Challenges***

5.15 For information, some of the future challenges we face include:-

- Sustaining the Pendle Community Safety Partnership to deliver on local priorities
- Sustaining our response to ASB vulnerable victims and dealing with increased demand for the use of new ASB powers
- Managing the expansion of Transforming Lives approach in Pendle to dealing with individuals who have complex needs

### **IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy:** all are priority policy action areas for the Borough Council and its partners. If all 4 theme groups deliver they will make a significant contribution to the Council's overall strategic objectives.

**Financial:** no direct implications from this report. Each Theme group is currently attracting funding into Pendle to deliver actions or support delivery.

**Legal:** The groups help the Council deliver its legal responsibility

**Risk Management:** None

**Health and Safety:** None

**Sustainability:** the theme groups aim to produce healthy, safe, economically sustainable communities in Pendle

**Community Safety:** The CSP fulfils the Borough's statutory responsibility under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act

**Equality and Diversity:** the theme groups operate within the Council's equality and diversity policy