

To: The Deputy Leader and Members of the Community and Environment Board

(Councillors Bell, Chambers, Gosling, M Humphreys, Jenns, Jordan, McLauchlan, K Parker, H Phillips, Rose, Singh, L Smith, S Smith and A Wright)

For the information of other Members of the Council

For general enquiries please contact Democratic Services on 01827 719226 or via e-mail democraticservices@northwarks.gov.uk.

For enquiries about specific reports please contact the officer named in the reports.

The agenda and reports are available in large print and electronic accessible formats if requested.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD AGENDA

27 MARCH 2023

The Community and Environment Board will meet in The Chamber, The Council House, South Street, Atherstone on Monday 27 March 2023 at 6.30pm.

The meeting can also be viewed on the Council's YouTube channel at [NorthWarks - YouTube](#).

AGENDA

- 1 Evacuation Procedure.**
- 2 Apologies for Absence / Members away on official Council business.**
- 3 Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests.**

4 **Public Participation**

Up to twenty minutes will be set aside for members of the public to put questions to elected Members.

Members of the public wishing to address the Board must register their intention to do so by 9:30am two working days prior to the meeting. Participants are restricted to five minutes each.

If you wish to put a question to the meeting, please register by email to democraticservices@northwarks.gov.uk or telephone 01827 719221 / 01827 719237 / 01827 719226.

Once registered to speak, the person asking the question has the option to either:

- a) attend the meeting in person at the Council Chamber.
- b) attend remotely via Teams; or
- c) request that the Chair reads out their written question.

If attending in person, precautions will be in place in the Council Chamber to protect those who are present however this will limit the number of people who can be accommodated so it may be more convenient to attend remotely.

If attending remotely an invitation will be sent to join the Teams video conferencing for this meeting. Those registered to speak should dial the telephone number and ID number (provided on their invitation) when joining the meeting to ask their question. However, whilst waiting they will be able to hear what is being said at the meeting. They will also be able to view the meeting using the YouTube link provided (if so, they made need to mute the sound on YouTube when they speak on the phone to prevent feedback).

5 **Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 23 January 2023** – copies herewith, to be approved and signed by the Chairman.

PUBLIC BUSINESS (WHITE PAPERS)

6 **Supplementary – Fly Tipping Update** – Report of the Chief Executive

Summary

Further to the Safer Communities Sub-Committee's consideration of the Fly Tipping update, this report asks Members to note the work that the Transformation and Environmental Health Teams have undertaken in order to try and reduce fly tipping across the Borough.

The Contact Officer for this report is Trudi Barnsley (719389).

- 7 **Leisure Facilities: Service Improvement Plan** – Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development

Summary

Appended to this report, for Members' consideration, is a copy of the Service Improvement Plan (SIP), detailing activity through to the end of February 2023, through which the Board has agreed to monitor the operational performance of the leisure facilities at each of its meetings. In addition, a draft SIP for the 12 months period commencing from April 2023 has been appended for Members' consideration and approval.

The Contact Officer for this report is Russell Simkiss (719257).

- 8 **North Warwickshire Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies – Progress Report** – Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development

Summary

This report informs Members of the progress made in respect of delivery against the priorities set out in the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy (2020 to 2033) and the adopted Playing Pitch Strategy (2018 to 2031).

The Contact Officer for this report is Becky Evans (719346).

- 9 **Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations**– Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development

Summary

Borough Council support for outside organisations is provided in many ways, including through its Annual Grants scheme and through wider partnership agreements. This report considers the allocation of the Annual Grants funding for 2023 / 24.

The Contact Officer for this report is Becky Evans (719346).

- 10 **Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2023 to 2027)**– Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development.

Summary

Subsequent to its development by the Health and Wellbeing Working Party, this report proposes the adoption of a new corporate Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2023 to 2027).

The Contact Officer for this report is Becky Evans (719346).

- 11 **Minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Working Party** held on 28 February 2023 – copy herewith.

12 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

To consider, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, whether it is in the public interest that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

13 **Confidential Extract of the minutes of the Community and Environment Board held on 23 January 2023 - copy herewith to be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

STEVE MAXEY
Chief Executive

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT BOARD

23 January 2023

Present: Councillor Bell in the Chair.

Councillors Chambers, D Clews, Gosling, M Humphreys, Jenns, Jordan, McLauchlan, H Phillips and A Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Parker, Rose, Singh (Substitute D Clews), L Smith and S Smith

27 **Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

Councillor Jordan declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No 33 (Leisure Facilities: Service Improvement Plan) – by reason of being the Treasurer of Atherstone Dickens Night.

28 **Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held on 10 October 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2022, copies having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

29 **General Fund Fees and Charges 2023/24**

The Chief Executive, Corporate Director – Streetscape and Director of Leisure and Community Development reported on the fees and charges for 2022/23 and the proposed fees and charges for 2023/24.

Resolved:

That the schedule of fees and charges for 2023/24, as set out in Appendix A to the report of the Chief Executive, Corporate Director – Streetscape and Director of Leisure and Community Development, be approved, subject to it being noted that the charge for adult community use of the sports hall at the Queen Elizabeth Academy is £35.50.

30 **General Fund Revenue Estimates 2023/24**

The Corporate Director – Resources detailed the revised budget for 2022/23 and an estimate of expenditure for 2023/24, together with forward commitments for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27.

Resolved:

- a That the revised budget for 2022/23 be approved; and
- b That the Estimates of Expenditure for 2023/24, as submitted to the Board, be included in the budget to be brought before the meeting of the Executive Board on 13 February 2023.

31 Capital Programme 2023/24 to 2025/26

The Corporate Director – Resources identified proposals for schemes to be included within the Council’s capital programme over the next three years.

Resolved:

That the schemes previously approved within the Council’s three-year capital programme be supported.

32 Leisure Facilities – 2023/24 Bank Holiday Closures

The Director of Leisure and Community Development sought the Board’s approval of a schedule of Bank Holiday closures of leisure facilities during the 2023/24 financial year.

Resolved:

That the schedule of leisure facility closures, as set out in paragraph 4.1 of the report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development, be approved.

33 Leisure Facilities: Service Improvement Plan

The Director of Leisure and Community Development sought consideration of the approved 2022/23 Service Improvement Plan (SIP), which detailed activity through to the end of November 2022, through which the Board had agreed to monitor the operational performance of the leisure facilities at each of its meetings.

Resolved:

- a That the progress made against the requirements identified in the approved 2022/23 Leisure Facilities Service Improvement Plan, through which operational performance is monitored, be approved; and
- b That the proposed extension of the Agreement held with The Queen Elizabeth Academy, Atherstone, for

a further period of up to five years, with effect from April 2023, be approved.

34 Leisure Facilities: Local Authority Trading Company

As requested at the meeting of the Board held in October 2022, the Director of Leisure and Community Development presented a condensed version of the approved LATCo-related Service Specification for Members' information and consideration.

Resolved:

That the shortened version of the approved LATCo-related Service Specification, as attached as an Appendix to the report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development, be approved.

35 Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Working Party Meeting held on 6 December 2022

The minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Working Party Meeting held on 6 December 2022 were received and noted.

36 Exclusion of the Public and Press

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act, namely it is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

37 Staffing Matter

The Director of Leisure and Community Development sought consideration of a proposal relating to a staffing matter.

Resolved:

That the recommendation, as set out in the report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development, be endorsed.

Margaret Bell
Chairman

Agenda Item 6

Community and Environment Board

27 March 2023

Report of the Chief Executive

Supplementary – Fly Tipping Update

1 Summary

- 1.1 Further to the Safer Communities Sub-Committee's consideration of the Fly Tipping update, this report asks Members to note the work that the Transformation and Environmental Health Teams have undertaken in order to try and reduce fly tipping across the Borough.

Recommendation to the Board

That the report be noted.

2 Consultation

- 2.1 Attached as Appendix A is a board report considered by the Safer Communities Sub-Committee on 16 March 2023. Any comments received will be reported verbally at the meeting.

3 Report Implications

- 3.1 All implications are set out in the report to Safer Communities Sub-Committee (appendix A).

4 Links to Council's Priorities

- 4.1 The ongoing actions will contribute towards the priorities of creating safer communities and protecting our countryside and heritage.

The Contact Officer for this report is Trudi Barnsley (719389)

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date

Agenda Item No 6

Safer Communities Sub Committee

16 March 2023

Report of the Chief Executive

Fly Tipping Update

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the work that the Transformation and Environmental Health Teams have undertaken in order to try and reduce fly tipping across the Borough.

Recommendation to the Board

That the report be noted.

2 Background

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is not to update members on fly tipping incidents as this will continue to be undertaken by the Corporate Director – Streetscape to the Safer Communities Sub-Committee. This report intends to provide members with an update on the work that the Transformation team working with Environmental Health, Streetscape, Communications Team, Community Development and Legal colleagues are undertaking, to reduce fly-tipping within the Borough.

2.2 Why have we looked at improving fly-tipping?

- It impacts our residents and visitors to the Borough; it is an eyesore and can also pose a danger particularly to children.
- It's the second highest crime type within the Borough,
- Our previous approach was silo based working, with our focus being to clear fly-tipping as quickly as possible (which we do very well, sometimes the crew pick the waste up before we even formally know about it!),
- We had a very reactive rather than proactive approach to the service,
- Our data that we captured was to enable us to provide statutory performance figures to the Environment Agency,
- The Council spends £205,000 per year on addressing Fly-Tipping within the Borough:

Fly Tipping Costs

		2020	2021	2022	Total (Average)
Contractor Clearances	Hazadous	£20,700.75	£4,177.63		£12,439.19
	Non- Hazadous	£10,280.00	£9,175.00		£9,727.50
		Number of Staff	Salary		Total
NWBC Staff	Amenity Cleaning	2			£76,228.88
		Number of staff	Hours per week	Hourly Rate (inc on Costs)	
Comms Teams	Press releases/social media	2	1.5	£18.25	£2,847.00
Transformation Team	Review/new way of working	1	3.5	£21.60	£3,931.20
Streetscape	SS Management	2	13		£18,536.70
		Total on 5025	Total on 5065		
Equipment	Cameras	£728.96	£77.67		£806.63
	AI Cameras			£23,900.00	£23,900.00
		Annual Salary	Hrs per week		
Camera & Signage Deploy	SS Staff Time	£38,648.00	7.5		£11,454.30
				Grand Total	£205,828.40

(Excluding Legal costs)

3 CCTV cameras

3.1 In order to help to reduce fly-tipping, we had been deploying wildlife cameras in rural locations where we experience high levels of fly tipping. These cameras have limited memory for recording images and quickly drain the batteries, they then require checking at least on a weekly basis. If fly tipping is reported in these locations, we then have to review large amounts of data which is incredibly inefficient to see if there is any evidence, we can take formal action on.

3.2 We are in progress of deploying some new Artificial Intelligence cameras. The cameras will:

- Intelligently detect events and footage, which is immediately transmitted over a secure IoT network to the iDefigo cloud platform. This will alert our Environmental Health team immediately and they will be able to action accordingly,
- Provide good quality timely evidence to assist us to carry out successful prosecutions, or issue fixed penalty notices both of which should act as a deterrent and help to reduce fly tipping in the Borough.
- The new AI cameras have a better battery life, filtered and cloud stored images will vastly improve the efficiency of our detection of fly tipping by reducing the time spent maintaining the cameras, reviewing images, and providing evidence that we would otherwise not have had,
- For more information about these AI cameras which are ideal for remote locations in our rural Borough, watch this video: [iDefigo BBC Click June 2022 - YouTube](#)

3.3 We are trialling this technology in the Borough.

4 Other Deterrents

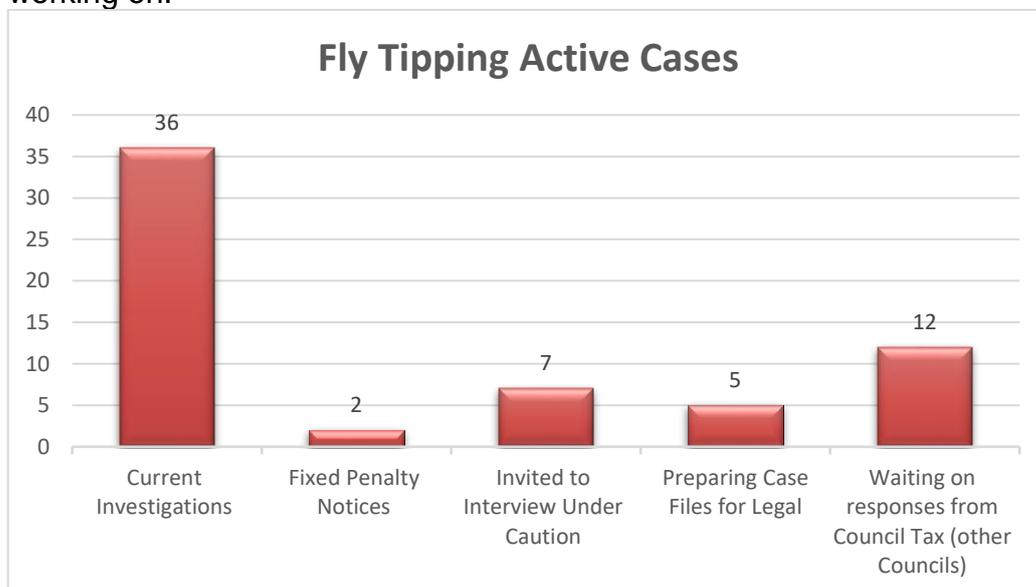
- 4.1 Environmental Health are working with the Police on an initiative to address illegally disposed tyres. A tyre tagging scheme can assist with identifying waste carriers and therefore discourage them from fly tipping.
- 4.2 Environmental Health are hoping to work closer with parish councils and the police to help tackle fly-tipping in the Borough.
- 4.3 Environmental Health and Police held a joint event in the Co-operative Society in Atherstone on 24 January 2023. The purpose of the event was to raise awareness about the negative impact, the costs involved in clearing fly tipping, raise awareness of the resident's responsibility to dispose of their waste legally, and that fly tipping is a criminal act. The event was hugely popular, and residents were asked why they thought people fly tipped, the overwhelming response was "residents are still required to book an appointment to visit the local tip". Another event is being planned in Coleshill.

5 Measures/Performance Information

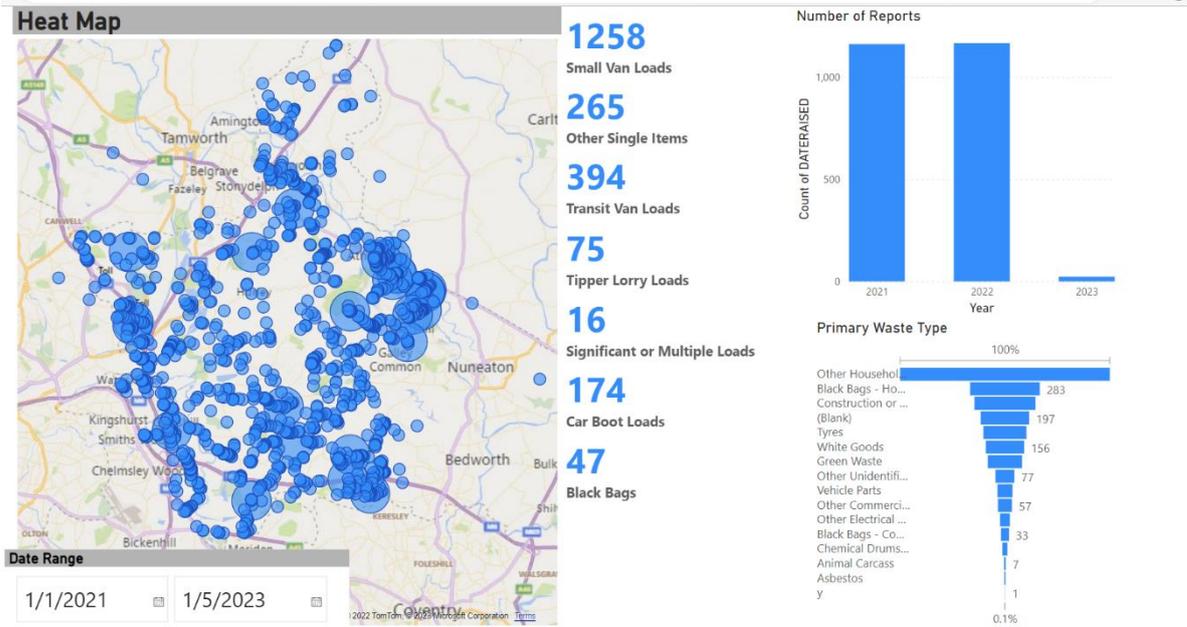
- 5.1 We are required to submit data every three months to the Environmental Agency. However, going forward we wanted more data and with a faster response.
- 5.2 We are working on a dashboard (by utilising Power BI Pro) and it will be available to view the real time data, at any time which can be monitored by the relevant officers:



- 5.2.1 The Environmental Health team have the following active cases that they are working on:



5.3 We have also created and shared an interactive Power BI report displaying hotspots, volumes, and waste types, which enables managers to make timely decisions.



[Fly Tipping Report](#)

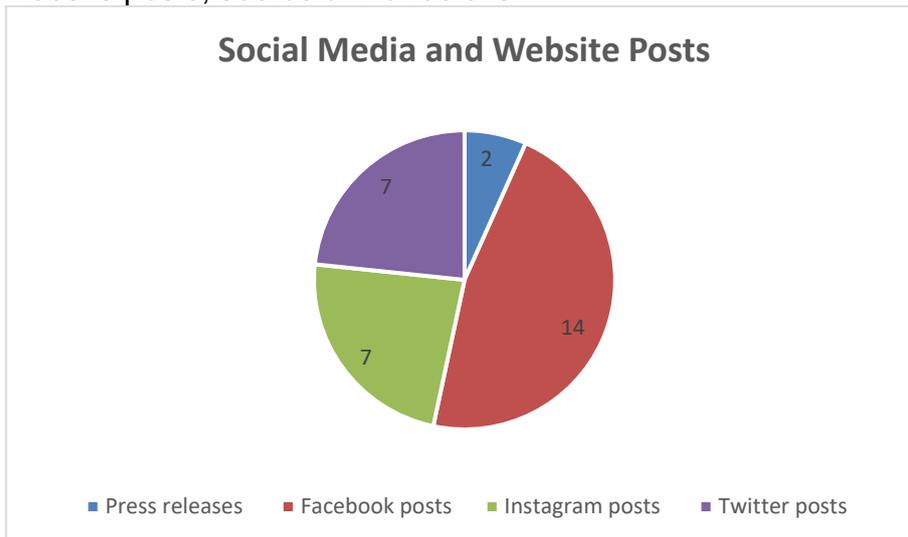
5.4 By analysing data, we identified September as one of our spikes, we therefore developed a joint communications and action plan with the primary objective of deterring people from fly-tipping within our Borough, which was titled 'Operation merge; week of action'.

5.4.1 Below is the 'week of action' communication plan:

Fly Tipping Communication Plan - Week of Action (Sept '22)

Topic	Responsible	When
Refresh webpage - have reporting at the top of the page	Chelsey	Monday
How to check a company has a Waste Carrier Licence	Milen	Monday
How to report fly tipping	Comms	Monday
Streetscape Fly Tip Crew - 'A day in the life of'	Mark	Mid-week
Weekly/Daily Totals	Mark feed info to Comms	Daily
We need witness statements - can we use a recent video clearly showing an offence that we couldn't action due to the lack of a witness statement?	Milen to share video - Comms to check with legal if it can be used?	Tuesday
Volunteer Pickers - promotion of stickers and availability of equipment	Mark is equipment available? Comms sticker design and purchase for distribution	Mid-week
Cost of Flytipping - Poster	Costs have been collated Comms to update poster	Thursday
Promote to Cllrs and public the need to leave evidence with the fly tipping	Comms	Tuesday
Promote Fixed Penalty Notice	Milen to provide details	Friday
Any news from Court date 23 September to share	Legal/Milen to provide details	Friday
Scrap Metal - anything to promote	David Dyde/Comms	Thursday
Housing Bin Store fly tipping - general story?	Housing	Friday

5.5 Due to departments working more closely together, the Council is issuing more fixed penalty notices (see 5.2.1 for breakdown) and publishing more social media and website posts, see below for details:



5.6 Environmental Health have a new Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) compliant system for interviews under caution. The system allows video and audio recording, it's portable and the data is encrypted and secure.

6 What next?

6.1 This is very much a work in progress. As members will be aware we are currently implementing a new Environmental Health IT system which is scheduled to go live in Spring 2023. We have started to map the new process which will be making the best use of technology, by logging all fly tipping clearances (whether reported by a member of the public, Councillors, Officers, or our Contact Centre Team) on the customer portal. As part of logging the request, the customer will be asked if they know who tipped the waste and if they are willing to provide a witness statement. The crew will be provided with a mobile device with a data card to access the system to pick-up and complete their jobs. Once the clearance has been actioned it will be assigned to Environmental Health who will seek advice from Legal colleagues to see if any further action can take place.

7 Report Implications

7.1 Financial Implications

7.1.1 Funding from the Council and Police and Crime commissioner budget is as follows:

Description	Cost
6 x AI cameras	£6,350
2 x Installation	£1,350
6 x Annual maintenance x 3 years	£16,200
Total	£23,900

The Council	£18,900
Police and Crime commissioner budget	£5,000

7.2 Safer Communities Implications

7.2.1 These are set out in the report.

7.3 Legal Data Protection and Human Rights Implications

7.3.1 Fly tipping is one of several offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, along with various duties requiring producers of waste, including householders, to take all reasonable measures to ensure that their waste is disposed of correctly and legally and, where applicable, is only transferred to someone who is authorised to transport or dispose of it.

7.3.2 The use of the CCTV cameras is subject to the Council's Policy on Directed Surveillance. If cameras are deployed in relation to a specific operation, their use for covert surveillance must usually be authorised by the Council under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act and, in turn, this must then be approved by the Magistrates Court. Failure to do so can lead to any evidence obtained being excluded by the Court in any subsequent prosecution.

7.3.3 Whilst the introduction of the new Environmental Health system is a positive step which will assist officers in logging cases and storing evidence, it should be noted that the Council must still comply with detailed legislation and codes of practice when investigating offences to ensure that evidence is admissible, and the offence can be proved to the required standard.

7.4 Environment, Climate Change and Health Implications

7.4.1 Tackling fly tipping will make positive contributions towards improving the environment and sustainability. The fly tips create adverse impacts on the local environment and use significant resources in removing them and carrying out investigations.

7.4.2 By reducing fly tipping the quality of life in local communities will be improved.

7.5 Risk Management Implications

The actions set out in this report are intended to reduce the risk of fly tipping within the Borough and enable us to carry out successful prosecutions, or issue fixed penalty notices, all of which should act as a deterrent and help to reduce fly tipping in the Borough.

7.6 Equality Implications

7.6.1 There are no known adverse impacts on any of the groups defined in the Equality Act 2010 under the protected characteristics. The adverse impacts of fly tipping on the local environment is often in rural locations although not exclusively.

7.7 Links to Council's Priorities

7.7.1 The ongoing actions will contribute towards the priorities of creating safer communities and protecting our countryside and heritage.

The Contact Officers for this report are Trudi Barnsley (2389) and Sharon Gallagher (2292).

Agenda Item No 7

Community and Environment Board

27 March 2023

Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development

Leisure Facilities: Service Improvement Plan

1 Summary

- 1.1 Appended to this report, for Members' consideration, is a copy of the Service Improvement Plan (SIP), detailing activity through to the end of February 2023, through which the Board has agreed to monitor the operational performance of the leisure facilities at each of its meetings. In addition, a draft SIP for the 12 months period commencing from April 2023 has been appended for Members' consideration and approval.

Recommendation to the Board

- a That the Board notes and comments upon the progress made against the requirements identified in the approved 2022/23 Leisure Facilities Service Improvement Plan, through which operational performance is monitored; and
- b That Members approve or otherwise amend the appended draft Service Improvement Plan against which the operational performance of the leisure facilities will be monitored through to 31 March 2024.

2 Consultation

- 2.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant Members and any comments received will be reported verbally at the meeting.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 In order to continue to provide a focused approach to service delivery, at its meeting held in March 2022, the Board approved a Leisure Facilities Service Improvement Plan (SIP), which was intended to guide activity through until the end of March 2023. A copy of the adopted Plan, which details the key actions, work programmes and improvements to be achieved by March 2023, is attached at Appendix A. The Plan seeks to highlight those matters that the Board has determined are important in order to enhance the quality and sustainability of the service delivered through its leisure facilities.

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4 **Service Improvement Plan: Progress**

- 4.1 The SIP attached at Appendix A seeks to evidence the progress made by the Leisure Facilities section through to the end of February 2023. Members are invited to comment on that progress. Any significant changes and / or progress made in early March will be reported verbally to the Board at its meeting.
- 4.2 As agreed with Members, this report does not seek to provide detailed commentary on the progress being made in respect of each action identified within the SIP. Instead, it aims to update the Board on the key areas of recent progress made within the leisure facilities. Members, however, are invited to comment and advise on any areas of activity upon which they wish Officers to focus in order to improve the operational viability of the facilities.
- 4.3 In mid-March 2023, the Leisure Facilities section received its draft report from the Children North East Poverty Proofing team. At the time of writing this report, there had been little opportunity to distil the content of the draft report. Both the draft report and the proposed action plan, however, will be discussed with the Health and Wellbeing Working Party in April / May, prior to being considered at a future meeting of the Board. Key actions from the report will be incorporated into the 2023 / 24 Service Improvement Plan, subsequent to their approval by Members.
- 4.4 Leisure Facilities ran a very successful health and fitness promotion in January, which achieved 204 new membership sign-ups. Efforts from the leisure facilities team this year have achieved a 10% increase in direct debit memberships since the start of the financial year overall. In comparison with pre-pandemic performance, Polesworth Fitness Hub now sits at 90% membership recovery, whilst the facilities in Atherstone and Coleshill have recovered in line with the national average (around 80%). Leisure Facilities aims to continue this growth throughout 2023 / 24.
- 4.5 As previously reported, the facilities are introducing a more structured and supportive "Member Journey", which will offer more support and communication for our customers once they have determined to become a member. A key part of this journey is the introduction of health testing scales, which will be used as a tool to educate customers, improve goal setting and interaction with gym staff. As well as the potential health benefits this will bring, all of these improvements will provide enhanced service quality and a more focused, person-centred approach to member retention. The health testing scales are now on site at the centres in Coleshill and Polesworth and training took place with key staff in mid-March. Awareness of this service will be promoted throughout April and May.
- 4.6 In support of this health testing initiative, Leisure Facilities has applied for a North Place Health Grant to introduce blood testing into both sites. The service is now in discussion with WCAVA and Public Health to finalise details of the funding and delivery of this important programme of work. A verbal update on progress will be provided to the Board at its meeting.

- 4.7 Leisure Facilities also supported a successful funding bid made by Warwickshire County Council, which has secured support for a programme to promote awareness and understanding of autism within the service. The aim to the initiative is to improve the experience of autistic people within the community. Through working with the County Council, Leisure Facilities staff will receive awareness training, after which the site teams will then assess the opportunities to make reasonable adjustments within the centres and to their operational procedures, thereby improving the environment for this important customer group. A related goal is for the facilities to become accredited as “autism-friendly” venues. Project delivery and timescales have yet to be clarified, but an update on progress will be provided to the Board in due course.
- 4.8 During the February half-term, holiday activities were offered at the facilities in Atherstone and Coleshill. Although the programme was somewhat reduced, due to a blood donor booking in Atherstone and planned sports hall maintenance in Coleshill, the centres still managed to offer sessions, including inflatable fun, various fun swimming sessions and Atherstone Family Fun’s HAF-funded activity programme. Over 300 attendances were achieved over the week, which was a positive response to a smaller than usual activity programme.
- 4.9 Leisure Facilities staff have continued to try to engage the local community within their centre-based activity programmes, a number of examples of which are identified below:
- Polesworth’s 25 Years of Gymnastics Celebration has started. There will be various initiatives throughout the year to celebrate this milestone. The link for initial story updates is as follows: [Latest News | Latest News | North Warwickshire \(northwarks.gov.uk\)](#)
 - Along with colleagues throughout the Borough Council, a number of staff within the Leisure Facilities team completed Mental Health First Aid training in March. Staff are now working on specific actions to ensure the MHFAiders have the best possible impact within the workforce and the wider community
 - Warwickshire Road Safety offered Child Seat Safety Checks at Coleshill Leisure Centre in February
 - The Queen Elizabeth Academy gym initiative, which offers a limited number of free seven day passes to encourage student learning, has been extended for the current school term
- 4.10 The period covered by the current SIP draws to a conclusion at the end of March 2023 and a summary of the key achievements, as well as the key projects required to be carried forward, have been summarised in Appendix A. Accordingly, a draft Improvement Plan for the progressive delivery of the service has been prepared for the next 12 months. The Board is invited to

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consider, approve or otherwise amend this draft Plan, which is attached at Appendix B. The updated Service Improvement Plan focuses on many of the same areas of activity as in the current year, but also aims to build on the progress made on community engagement and increasing leisure opportunities for the public. Subject to Members' approval, Officers will commence work against the provisions of the new Plan with effect from April 2023.

- 4.11 The Leisure Facilities Business Development team, in conjunction with relevant colleagues throughout the Authority, will continue to manage and monitor the implementation of the requirements of the SIP on a regular basis and to report accordingly to each meeting of this Board, including to its next scheduled meeting to be held on 5 June 2023. This process will continue to afford Members an opportunity to both understand and direct relevant aspects of the performance of the Borough Council's leisure facilities.

5 Report Implications

5.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 5.1.1 Whilst there is no financial implication arising directly out of this report, the SIP will enable the Board to monitor the performance of the leisure facilities at each of its meetings and to advise on activity that would improve operational sustainability.

5.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 5.2.1 The Authority's leisure facilities contribute to community safety by providing well-managed services that afford opportunities for positive activity and, therefore, a creative alternative to potential criminal and / or anti-social behaviour.

5.3 Legal, Data Protection and Human Rights Implications

- 5.3.1 There are no direct legal, data protection or human rights implications arising from this report.

5.4 Environment, Climate Change and Health Implications

- 5.4.1 Leisure facilities have a positive impact on the physical and mental wellbeing of individuals and the sustainability of local communities by providing opportunities for formal and informal recreation and by contributing to an improved quality of life.

5.5 Human Resources Implications

- 5.5.1 There are no human resources implications arising from this report, other than those to which reference is made in the appended Service Improvement Plans and upon which commentary is provided therein.

5.6 Risk Management Implications

5.6.1 There are no direct risk management implications arising from this report. The activity that is included within the Service Improvement Plans, however, will be risk assessed and appropriate controls put in place, where appropriate.

5.7 Equalities Implications

5.7.1 The activity identified in the Service Improvement Plans is intended to advance the Borough Council's commitment to ensuring equality for all members of the community across its portfolio of service provision.

5.8 Links to Council's Priorities

5.8.1 The Service Improvement Plans have direct links to the following corporate priorities:

- Safe, liveable, locally focused communities
- Prosperous and healthy
- Sustainable growth and protected rurality
- Efficient organisation

5.8.2 Additionally, the Borough Council's leisure facilities contribute directly to the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy to:

- Raise aspirations, educational attainment and skill levels
- Develop healthier communities
- Improve access to services

The Contact Officer for this report is Russell Simkiss (719257).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	Director of Leisure and Community Development	Report to Community and Environment Board (Leisure Facilities: Service Improvement Plan)	January 2023

North Warwickshire Leisure Facilities

Service Improvement Plan - April 2022 to March 2023

Aim: To improve the operational efficiency and effectiveness of the Borough Council's Leisure Facilities

Responsible Officers Key:

D:	Director
LFM:	Leisure Facilities Manager
SSRO:	Service, Sales and Retention Officer
SAEO:	Sports, Activities and Events Officer
OO:	Operations Officer(s)
LMT:	All of the above

Last Updated: 09 March 2023

Theme	Action	Target	Timescale	Resource / Cost	Lead Officer	RAG and DOT	Comment / Progress
Recover and Reinvent 'Optimising the return to an active lifestyle', 'Continue to re-invent to be relevant to the evolving community needs.'	To be pro-active in encouraging more people to return to; or take on a more active lifestyle	Respond to the latest Government guidelines to maintain a safe environment for all To: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a 'health and wellbeing' review of programmes with the aim to improve inclusivity and remove barriers to participation Work with external professionals to understand the service through a 'poverty proofing' lens 	April 2022 and ongoing Updated programme June 22, then ongoing till March 2023 October 2022 (was June 2022 originally)	To identify within the review process	OO	↑	Facilities are adhering to latest guidance, ensuring a safe environment for staff and public
	To continue to understand what communities want / need and be re-active to adapt current or invent new services; and work collaboratively to encourage a 'leadership community' to do the same	Adapt to deliver services differently or to create new services in their place with the goal to keep the community engaged, more active and living healthier, happier lives	March 2023		LMT	↑	The report has been received. Action plans will be created and discussed with both the H&WWP and the C&E Board
	Review pricing and packages	To review fees, charges and packages to ensure affordable services in alignment with the local and wider market	January 2023		SAEO / SSRO	↑	Examples will be highlighted through the report
	Explore the opportunity of optimising use of space across facilities	Review the opportunities to optimise the use of space in facilities to increase services, attendance and improve financial performance	March 2023		LMT	↑	Fees and charges were approved in January to introduce from April 2023
	Become 'greener' and improve the facilities carbon footprint within the context provided by	Within the context provided by the corporate Climate Change Action Plan, consider climate change in the operation of service and plan to do things differently and to be "greener"	March 2023		LFM/SS RO/SE AO	↑	Coleshill balcony and salon, Atherstone 2 nd studio and studio and MUGA hire at Polesworth School have been delivered. Further opportunities have been identified moving forward
					LMT	↑	Leisure Services has contributed to the Council's green agenda. Pool covers were installed at the end of December 2022

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	the corporate Climate Change Action Plan						Energy savings have been factored into operation (lighting, heating etc)
Connecting with Communities Continue to be outward looking and community focused	Actively consult, engage and seek feedback to understand what communities want and to shape current and future services	Continue to ask questions and gain feedback on current and future services throughout the year. To feedback to the Board regularly about surveys, forums, mystery visits and reviewing verbal and written feedback	March 2023	Provision made within the revenue budget	OO	↑	The leisure team gained feedback through a number of surveys, forums, audits (calls and service checks), and verbal / written feedback throughout the year. Mystery visits have not been completed, but mystery calls and service audits by managers have. Feedback has been used to better plan service improvements
	Focus on delivering services more tailored to the wants and needs of the community	Explore Net Promoter Score (NPS) as a feasible measure of performance	Revised to March 2023	Identify within the review	OO	↓	To date, a NPS that assesses each facility and service has not been established locally. A framework, however, has been planned and will be delivered through 2023/24
		Collaborate with Community Development, Public Health, community groups and other appropriate partners on the development and delivery of services, events and community projects. Engagement with new groups may further enhance the annual plan, which outlines the delivery timescales	Ongoing until March 2023	Provision made within the revenue budget process	SAEO / SSRO	↑	Leisure Facilities have been far more engaged with communities and community groups than in previous years. These relationships have benefitted communities in what activities and services are delivered regularly and periodically throughout the year
			Ongoing until March 2023		SAEO / SSRO	↑	Leisure Facilities secured funding to increase walking

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		Optimise service delivery within / by communities, through securing external support for activity programmes. To update the Board at each meeting					sports at Coleshill, worked with schools to introduce gym reward schemes, made links with HAF funded programmes to be delivered and are currently working with a number of partners to improve health checks and awareness locally
Positive Experiences for the community, with a particular focus on: - Children and Young People - Active Ageing - Disabled, Disadvantaged and Special Education Needs (SEND)	Optimise opportunities for the community, with a particular focus on services for children and young people to be more physically active	Holiday Activities Continue to offer holiday activities through the year (and where possible increase the quality and diversity of the programme). To achieve levels at or above that in 2021/22	February 2023	Provision made within the revenue budget Process	SAEO	↑	February's holiday activities, which saw over 300 attendances, completed the year of service delivery, which saw great improvement in attendance and programme variety versus 2019 (pre-pandemic)
		Parties - Optimise party sales to achieve levels at or above that in 2019/20	March 2023		SAEO	↑	The number of parties delivered in 2022/23 has been very positive, with income forecast of 20% more than that achieved in 2019/20 (pre-pandemic).
		- To complete a party review and shape a plan to consider how to improve the quality, choice, packages on offer and timelines for achieving this	February 2023 (Revised from October 2022)	Provision made within the revenue budget process	SAEO	↑	This year, the review has achieved an increase in party slots available; improved party safety and operating procedures; introduced some new equipment; and improved customer service procedures; which will deliver a better party offer in future
		Schools - Maintain or improve the performance of the school swimming service	March 2023		SAEO / OO	↓	The school swim service continues to be well attended, with approximately 44 sessions

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network with schools to understand if / how leisure services could offer more to support the curriculum / health and wellbeing / positive experiences for children and young people 	February 2023		SAEO	↑	<p>delivered each week to a variety of schools. Although this is positive, it is below the performance of 2019, which at times saw 50 sessions delivered. Some schools have changed their approach this year, splitting groups, so requiring less teachers. Promotion of the service and recruiting more schools will be a future focus</p> <p>Services delivered for and with schools have progressed well this year. Polesworth Fitness Hub has three regular schools use the facility in the day, Coleshill and Atherstone have positive arrangements with local schools to encourage gym participation and staff maintain contact with many schools through the swimming networks. There is still much more to build on in 2023/24.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re-introduce work experience schemes and explore opportunities around the development of training and volunteer experiences that may lead to employment 	July 2022		OO	↑	<p>The opportunity for work experience was available at Coleshill and Atherstone this year</p>
		<p style="text-align: center;">Sports and Coaching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimise the number of junior coached and activity sessions hosted within the facilities, both through increasing the in-house offering, 	March 2023		LMT	↑	<p>Leisure Facilities has been successful in maintaining its current coached gymnastics, swim and holiday provision; and has been very successful</p>

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		and recruiting new groups (restore previous and create new opportunities).					in increasing the number of junior coached activities and groups to use the facilities. Despite losing the Aston Villa booking, the service has surpassed 2019/20 in the coached opportunities offered. Examples include an increase in dance group bookings, martial arts groups, cycle schemes, seasonal football and cricket
		<p style="text-align: center;">Swimming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to enhance the number of swimmers on the Learn to Swim scheme versus 2019 / 20 	March 2023		SAEO	↑	With regard to swimming lessons, the Pool has outperformed 2019, averaging over 800 swimmers enrolled (versus 790 in 2019)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review the pool timetable through a 'health and wellbeing' lens and make positive changes considering the diverse needs of the community 	June 2022 and March 2023		SAEO	↑	A new Pool timetable was launched in November, including a number of more inclusive sessions
		<p style="text-align: center;">Health and Fitness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network with schools and communities to increase awareness of junior fitness services, with the aim to increase junior membership sales 	March 2023		SSRO	↑	Various schemes have been set up across sites with a number of schools, which have increased regular attendance and the use of gym facilities
		Engage with more community groups and with Community Development to continue to understand what public want / need within leisure facilities and	December 2023		SAEO	↑	The service offering has certainly been enhanced, with the introduction of more

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	<p>Continue to improve the service offering for the “active ageing” populations within in North Warwickshire</p> <p>Enhance the Leisure Facilities service offering to the disabled, disadvantaged and Special Educational Needs (SEN) populations of North Warwickshire</p>	<p>communities; to feed into current action plans to improve services for active ageing populations. Using action plans, to continue to develop and deliver services that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance service quality; Increase the in-house service offering; Increase the number of groups and organisations hosted at the leisure facilities; Work with and support those community groups offering services to the active ageing population; Create a better awareness and signposting of all of these services delivered within North Warwickshire <p>Engage with community groups, schools and other stakeholders to shape action plans to improve services provision for disabled, disadvantaged and Special Educational Needs (SEN) populations. Using action plans, to continue to develop and deliver services that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance service quality; Increase the in-house service offering; Increase the number of groups and organisations hosted at the leisure facilities; Work with and support those community groups offering services to the active ageing population; Create a better awareness and signposting of all of these services delivered within North Warwickshire <p>Secure funding for and deliver services in the community around tackling inequalities, to ensure a more diverse and inclusive service offer</p>	<p>December 2023</p> <p>March 2023</p>		<p>SAEO</p> <p>SAEO</p>	<p>↑</p> <p>↑</p>	<p>walking sports at Coleshill; a re-brand and promotion of some activities at Atherstone; and progress towards a better health testing service, which will benefit all of the community. A more focused community engagement approach during 2023/24 will need to be taken in order to fully understand and meet the needs of the community</p> <p>All sites have been able to engage and attract a number of new; and maintain existing disability groups, which regularly attend the gym and swim facilities across the leisure facilities</p> <p>Atherstone Leisure Complex has engaged and hosted HAF funded programmes led by Atherstone Family Fun; and engaged with Children North East to learn from its experience in “poverty proofing” the leisure service in future</p> <p>Staff training in Autism Awareness with the aim of facility accreditation is currently in discussion with Warwickshire County Council, which, in partnership with North Warwickshire, has secured</p>

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		Use the “We are Undefeatable” Sport England campaign to promote the service offer and encourage participation	March 2023		LFM / SAE0 / SSRO	↑	funding to deliver at our facilities The campaign took place in March 2023, with a gym focused approach
Connecting with Health and Wellbeing	To increase awareness of the importance of health and wellbeing within the community	Report to the Health and Wellbeing Working Party on the Leisure Facilities-related actions within the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan	Ongoing	Provision made within the revenue budget process	LFM	↑	Where available, regular updates have been provided to the H&WWP throughout the year
		Deliver Health and Wellbeing events and campaigns throughout the year, joining up working with other groups and organisations where possible and linking to charities to enhance the impact where appropriate	March 2023		SEAO / SSRO	↑	A calendar of engagement activities and events has been delivered through the year
	Working with Everyone Health, social prescribers and other stakeholders, to increase the capacity and options available on the referral scheme and through social prescription into services; to increase participation, physical activity, physical and mental health and wellbeing of the public	August 2022	SSRO		↑	Exercise referral pathways continue to be offered across the facilities. With the health and fitness service starting to take a ‘health’ focus, the introduction of the scales, and other initiatives, this will be an area of activity for 2023/24	
	Working with corporate and local businesses, create a “Workplace Wellbeing” pack and service offering, targeting corporate and local / high street businesses	Revised to February 2022	SSRO		↓	This action will be carried forward to deliver in 2023/24	
To further develop the choice of health and wellbeing services to strive to improve physical and mental wellbeing within the community	Explore the opportunity to introduce Mental Health First Aiders within the service, to identify concerns, signpost to support and enhance the opportunity for suicide prevention within the community	March 2023		LFM	↑	A number of Leisure Facilities staff received training in March 2023. MHFAiders within the service will now plan how to	

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		Periodically gain feedback on the impact existing and new services are having on the physical and mental wellbeing of the community and thereafter to improve the focus and impact of the service offer	January 2023 and March 2023		OO	↑	best support staff and customers Surveys and feedback collected through the year have informed that 85+% of those engaged in the services felt a corresponding mental health benefit
Active Environments	Continue to network and increase opportunities to improve health and wellbeing in alternative environments	To increase the use of parks and outdoor spaces in the delivery of in-house services and events	October 2022	To identify within the review process	SEAO / SSRO	↑	Leisure Facilities has had a small impact in alternative environments this year (e.g. Leisure has promoted funding opportunities to external groups; led a run course; pursued opportunities to use more outdoor / alternative space within parks and schools; supported the QBR; and other local events If successful in securing funding, for outreach health testing, this will start to improve presence in communities further in 2023/24 For 2023/24 the service will better define its capacity and objectives to have a sustained, focused and positive impact in the 2023/24
		To work with groups and organisations to improve participation opportunities delivered externally in alternative environments	October 2022	Provision made within the revenue budget Process	SEAO / SSRO	↑	
		To work with Community Development on the planning and delivery of the Borough's Cycling Plan	November 2022	To identify within the review process	LFM / SEAO	↓	

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		<p>Work with Community Development to include the leisure facilities as hubs for walking, running and cycling groups</p>	November 2022		LFM / SEAO	↑	<p>Cycling plan was not fully established as staffing resource and priorities changed. Cycling will be maintained as a focus for in 2023/24</p> <p>Leisure Facilities, Community Development and Planning consulted with Warwickshire County Council on its 'Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan', and have continued to engage , to ensure routes in North Warwickshire are developed.</p> <p>Mini Bikers is now a regular cycle scheme delivering courses at Coleshill Leisure Centre</p> <p>The Polesworth School remains a starting point for the Badgers running club once a week</p>
	To explore digital technology in supporting service delivery	To scope digital and technological opportunities that will enhance the service offering and reduce barriers to participation (cost, time, access, other)	March 2023		LFM	↑	<p>With the support of the H&WWP, Leisure has purchased advanced health testing scales to introduce to the service</p> <p>The team has explored the cost-benefit of a number of other technologies, including: CRM and member retention technology; reporting</p>

Theme	Action	Target	Timescale	Resource / Cost	Lead Officer	RAG and DOT	Comment / Progress
							technology; sales management software and social value software
Health and Fitness	Improve the quality of the health and fitness service across the facilities, focusing on re-engaging members, improving retention, increasing sales, and providing a positive customer experience	Further develop the 'Member Journey' for health and fitness members across leisure facilities	July 2022 (Launch changes in December 2022)	Provision made within the revenue budget Process	SSRO	↑	Although later than originally planned, a detailed member journey has been planned and piloted at Polesworth and is being introduced at Coleshill too. The introduction of health testing scales has been factored into the journey; with the additional option of blood test checks hopefully to follow. Once embedded at Polesworth and Coleshill, the journey will be replicated at Atherstone
		Ensure the delivery of health and fitness marketing campaigns throughout the year to achieve sales targets	Ongoing until March 2023		SSRO / LFM	↑	Campaigns have been delivered through the year to optimise health and fitness sales. Memberships have grown by 10% since 1 April 2022
		Deliver regular member engagements, incentives, and service developments to optimise retention	Ongoing until March 2023		SSRO	↑	Leisure Facilities continues to offer gym challenges; members of the month; deliver quarterly classes, launch events and offer engagement and awareness activities, including: 'Take on Tyler' (Coleshill Instructor); charity and awareness events
		Review the group exercise programme to ensure occupancy levels are proactively managed	Ongoing until March 2022		SSRO	↑	The programme continues to be reviewed and managed to high levels

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		Review the opportunity for funding and cost / benefit of procuring hi-tech biometric health testing scales	July 2022 (delivered February 2023)		SSRO	↑	Funding of two hi-tech biometric health testing scales has been provided by the Health and Wellbeing Working Party at Coleshill and Polesworth
Health and Safety / Operations	To ensure appropriate levels of skilled staff are available to maintain service	Ensure staffing levels and development opportunities are appropriately managed through the year	Ongoing until March 2023	Divisional and Corporate Training Budget	OO	↑	Recruitment and selection takes place through the year as required. Lifeguard and swim teacher courses have taken place through the year Appropriate staff have completed training in risk assessment, GDPR, water hygiene and COSHH through the year
	To ensure all staff are engaged and have a clear role in maintaining service	Ensure appraisals are completed and communication structures are maintained at all levels through the year	Ongoing until March 2023		OO	↑	Training plans have been completed and submitted corporately Appraisals are up to date
	Ensure health and safety is maintained at all times within leisure facilities	Continue to review, update and improve facility health and safety. To feedback progress and outcomes of health and safety and building audits	Ongoing until March 2023		OO	↑	Regular one to ones and team meets continue to take place across sites and teams
		Continue to monitor and audit health and safety knowledge and compliance. To feedback training updates and spot check results to the Board	Ongoing until March 2023		LFM	↑	Health and Safety review schedules are set across sites. The responsible team meets regularly to ensure health and safety tasks are completed through the year

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							<p>Audits are scheduled through the year to assess performance and identify improvements</p> <p>Spot checks have taken place through the year for various areas of health and safety to ensure procedures are adhered to</p>
Marketing and Promotion	Ensure effective marketing to the public to optimise engagement and potential return on investment	Create an updated Marketing Plan to be proactive in service campaigns, to include events scheduled throughout the year	April 2022	Provision made within the revenue budget Process	LFM	↑	Planned marketing and promotional campaigns have been identified and delivered through the year, and updated through the SIP / Board reports
		To update the Board on campaigns and marketing activity through the year	Ongoing until March 2023		LFM	↑	
		Optimise web engagements (at or above that of 2021 / 22) and increase social media followers and engagements	Ongoing until March 2023		LMT	↑	Combined leisure web and App performance remains comparable with that of 2021/22
		Deliver internal and external leisure bulletins	Ongoing until March 2023		LFM	↑	A newsletter was shared in May, September and March
Monitoring, Review and Evaluation	Report on performance against the actions identified in this Service Improvement Plan to each meeting of the C&E Board		Every Community and Environment Board		D / LFM	↑	SIP progress reports are presented to each meeting of the C&E Board

North Warwickshire Leisure Facilities

Service Improvement Plan - April 2023 to March 2024

Aim: To improve the operational efficiency and effectiveness of the Borough Council's Leisure Facilities

Responsible Officers Key:

D:	Director
LFM:	Leisure Facilities Manager
SSRO:	Service, Sales and Retention Officer
SAEO:	Sports, Activities and Events Officer
OO:	Operations Officer(s)
LMT:	All of the above

Theme	Action	Target	Timescale	Resource / Cost	Lead Officer	RAG and DOT	Comment / Progress
Recover and Reinvent ‘Optimising the opportunity for communities to live an active lifestyle’, ‘Continue to reinvent to be relevant to evolving community needs’	<p>Be pro-active in encouraging more people to live more active lifestyles</p> <p>To continue to understand what communities want and work collaboratively to encourage a ‘leadership community’ to do the same</p> <p>Review pricing and packages</p> <p>Explore the opportunity to optimise the use of space across facilities</p> <p>Become ‘greener’ within the context provided by the corporate Climate Change Action Plan</p>	<p>Continue to adapt to make services more inclusive, accessible and inviting: At each meeting, to update the Board on service progress in respect of the ‘Poverty Proofing’ action plan; Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity action plan; establish further external reviews and training through the year</p> <p>Using community engagement / steering groups where appropriate, adapt to deliver services differently or create new services in their place with the goal to keep the community engaged, more active and living healthier, happier lives</p> <p>To review fees, charges and packages to ensure affordable services in alignment with the local and wider market</p> <p>Review opportunities to optimise the use of space in facilities to increase services, attendance and improve financial performance</p> <p>Within the context provided by the corporate Climate Change Action Plan, consider climate change in the operation of service and plan to do things differently and to be “greener”</p>	<p>April 2024 and ongoing</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>January 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p>	<p>To identify within the review process</p>	<p>OO</p> <p>LMT</p> <p>LMT</p> <p>LMT</p> <p>LMT</p>		
Connecting with Communities Continue to be outward looking and community focused	<p>Actively consult, engage and seek feedback to understand what communities want and to shape current and future services</p>	<p>Continue to ask questions and gain feedback on current and future services throughout the year. To feedback to the Board regularly about surveys, forums, mystery visits and reviewing verbal and written feedback</p> <p>Generate a Net Promoter Score (NPS) for each facility and the service as a feasible measure of performance</p>	<p>March 2024</p> <p>Revised to March 2024</p>	<p>Provision made within the revenue budget</p> <p>Identify within the review</p>	<p>OO</p> <p>OO</p>		

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	Focus on delivering services tailored to the wants and needs of the community	Collaborate with community groups and other appropriate partners to ensure the development and delivery of internal and external services, events and community projects. To report to the Board at each meeting	Ongoing until March 2024	Provision made within the revenue budget	SAEO / SSRO		
Positive Experiences for the community, with a particular focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children and Young People - Active Ageing - Disabled, Disadvantaged and Special Education al Needs (SEND) 	Optimise opportunities for the community, with a particular focus on services for children and young people to be more physically active	<p style="text-align: center;">Holiday Activities</p> <p>Continue to offer holiday activities through the year (and where possible increase the quality and diversity of the programme). To achieve attendances at or above that in 2022/23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parties</p> <p>Optimise party sales to achieve sales and participation levels at or above that in 2022/23</p> <p>To complete a party review and shape a plan to consider how to improve the quality, choice and packages on offer for achieving this</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Schools</p> <p>To improve the performance of the school swimming service back to that of 2019/20 (48-50 taught sessions per week)</p> <p>Network with schools to understand if / how Leisure Services could offer more to support the curriculum / health and wellbeing / positive experiences for children and young people</p> <p>Deliver work experience schemes</p> <p>Explore opportunities to develop apprenticeships and volunteer experiences that may lead to employment</p>	<p>February 2024</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>October 2023</p> <p>March 2024</p> <p>February 2024</p> <p>July 2023</p> <p>December 2023</p>	<p>Provision made within the revenue budget Process</p> <p>Provision made within the revenue budget process</p>	<p>OO</p> <p>OO</p> <p>OO</p> <p>OO</p> <p>OO</p> <p>OO</p>		

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		<p align="center">Sports and Coaching</p> <p>Optimise the number of junior coached and activity sessions hosted within the facilities, both through increasing the in-house offering and recruiting new groups (restore previous and create new opportunities)</p> <p align="center">Swimming</p> <p>Continue to enhance the number of swimmers on the Learn to Swim scheme, versus 2022 / 23</p> <p>Continue to review the pool timetable and make positive changes to optimise attendances, income and best accommodate the diverse needs of the community</p> <p align="center">Health and Fitness</p> <p>Network with schools and communities to increase awareness of junior fitness services, with the aim to increase junior membership sales</p>	March 2024		LMT		
	Continue to improve the service offering for the “active ageing” populations within in North Warwickshire	Engage with more community groups to understand their needs. With this information, continue to develop and deliver services that will enhance service quality, increase provision and improve awareness of what is available in the community	December 2023		OO		
	Continue to improve the service offering for disabled, disadvantaged and Special Educational Needs (SEN) populations of North Warwickshire	Engage with more community groups to understand their needs. With this information, continue to develop and deliver services that will enhance service quality, increase provision and improve awareness of what is available in the community	December 2023		OO		
		Secure funding for; and deliver services in the community around tackling inequalities, to ensure a more diverse and inclusive service offer	March 2024		LMT		

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Connecting with Health and Wellbeing	To increase awareness of the importance of health and wellbeing within the community	<p>Report to the Health and Wellbeing Working Party on the Leisure Facilities-related actions within the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan</p> <p>Deliver Health and Wellbeing events and campaigns throughout the year, joining up working with other groups and organisations where possible and linking to charities to enhance the impact where appropriate</p>	Ongoing March 2024	Provision made within the revenue budget process	LFM SEAO / SSRO		
	To further develop the choice of health and wellbeing services to strive to improve physical and mental wellbeing within the community	Working with Everyone Health, social prescribers and other stakeholders, to increase the capacity and options available on the referral scheme and through social prescription into services	Ongoing		SSRO		
		Working with corporate and local businesses, create a “Workplace Wellbeing” pack and service offering, targeting corporate and local / high street businesses	November 2023		SSRO		
		Following Mental Health First Aid Training, to embed processes within the service that will optimise the benefit to public and staff	July 2023		LFM		
		Periodically gain feedback on the impact existing and new services are having on the physical and mental wellbeing of the community and thereafter to improve the focus and impact of the service offer	March 2024		OO		
Active Environments	Continue to network and increase opportunities to improve health and wellbeing in alternative environments	To work with groups and organisations to improve participation opportunities delivered externally in alternative environments	October 2022	To identify within the review process	LMT		
		To work with Community Development to promote active travel, increase opportunities and awareness of opportunities to walk, cycle and run	November 2022		LMT		

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	To explore digital technology in supporting service delivery	To scope digital and technological opportunities that will enhance the service offering and reduce barriers to participation (cost, time, access, other)	March 2024	To identify within the review process	LFM		
Health and Fitness	Improve the quality of the health and fitness service across the facilities, focusing on re-engaging members, improving retention, increasing sales and providing a positive customer experience	Embed the 'Member Journey' for health and fitness customers across Leisure Facilities, including health testing scales and, if successful, blood testing.	August 2023	Provision made within the revenue budget Process	SSRO		
		Ensure the delivery of health and fitness marketing campaigns throughout the year to achieve sales targets	Ongoing until March 2024		SSRO / LFM		
		Deliver regular member engagements, incentives and service developments to optimise retention	Ongoing until March 2024		SSRO		
		Review the group exercise programme to ensure occupancy levels are proactively managed	Ongoing until March 2024		SSRO		
		Review the opportunity for funding and cost / benefit of reporting, CRM and sales management software	October 2023		SSRO		
Health and Safety / Operations	To ensure appropriate levels of skilled staff are available to maintain service	Ensure staffing levels and development opportunities are appropriately managed throughout the year	Ongoing until March 2024	Divisional and Corporate Training Budget	OO		
	To ensure all staff are engaged and have a clear role in maintaining service	Ensure appraisals are completed and communication structures are maintained at all levels through the year	Ongoing until March 2024		OO		
		Continue to review, update and improve facility health and safety. To feedback progress and outcomes of health and safety and building audits	Ongoing until March 2024		OO		
	Ensure health and safety is maintained at all times within Leisure Facilities	Continue to monitor and audit health and safety knowledge and compliance. To feedback training updates and spot check results to the Board	Ongoing until March 2024		LFM		

Theme	Action	Target	Timescale	Resource / Cost	Lead Officer	RAG and DOT	Comment / Progress
		Introduce a 'staff recognition scheme' to recognise and reward high performance within teams	July 2023		SEAO		
Marketing and Promotion	Ensure effective marketing to the public to optimise engagement and potential return on investment	<p>Create an updated and proactive Marketing Plan, to include events scheduled throughout the year</p> <p>To update the Board on campaigns and marketing activity throughout the year</p> <p>Optimise web and App engagements (at or above that of 2022 / 23) and increase social media followers and engagements</p> <p>Deliver internal and external leisure bulletins</p> <p>Re-brand and undertake appropriate marketing activity in preparation for the introduction of the LATCo (Brand Book, web, socials, literature, signage and more)</p>	<p>April 2023</p> <p>Ongoing until March 2024</p> <p>Ongoing until March 2024</p> <p>May, August, December, March</p> <p>July 2023</p>	Provision made within the revenue budget Process	<p>SEAO</p> <p>SEAO</p> <p>SEAO</p> <p>SEAO</p> <p>SEAO</p>		
Monitoring, Review and Evaluation	Report on performance against the actions identified in this Service Improvement Plan to each meeting of the C&E Board		Every Community and Environment Board		D / LFM		

Agenda Item No 8

Community and Environment Board

27 March 2023

Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development

North Warwickshire Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies - Progress Report

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the progress made in respect of delivery against the priorities set out in the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy (2020 to 2033) and the adopted Playing Pitch Strategy (2018 to 2031).

Recommendation to the Board

That Members note and comment upon the progress made in respect of the implementation of the priorities of the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy (2020 to 2033) and the Playing Pitch Strategy (2018 to 2031)

2 Consultation

- 2.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant Members and any comments received will be reported at the meeting.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 As Members are aware, the Board formally adopted the North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy (2020 to 2033) at its meeting held in January 2020. The Playing Pitch Strategy was adopted by the Board at its meeting held in January 2019. This report provides an update on progress in respect of delivery against the priorities identified in both documents.

4 Service Priorities

4.1 Improvement, Maintenance and Cleanliness

Atherstone Sports Club

- 4.1.1 Members are aware that, in November 2021, the Resources Board granted permission for Atherstone Sports Club to enter into a long-term (30 years) lease in respect of its management, development, maintenance and use of part of Royal Meadow Drive Recreation Ground. The content of that draft lease has now been agreed with Atherstone Sports Club and the legal representatives of both parties. The timing of the formal signing of the lease is a matter that has the potential to affect future applications for external funding support, as a consequence of which both the Sports Club and the Borough Council have determined to enter into an “Agreement for Lease”, which formalises the commitment to enter into a lease arrangement, thereby meaning that the Lease itself can be signed at a later date.
- 4.1.2 The individual clubs that make up the over-arching Sports Club have been working hard with their respective governing bodies and each other on the production of the overall site development plan and business plan that will frame the growth of the proposed outdoor sports hub. Equally, they have been working closely with colleagues on the planning application that will support the intended construction of a floodlit, fenced artificial grass pitch, soft landscaping and improved access and parking arrangements at the Recreation Ground.
- 4.1.3 It is also pleasing to be able to report that the Football Foundation has initiated early site survey work at the Recreation Ground, which is an important first stage in the development of a funding application to advance plans to develop a high quality multi-sports hub at Royal Meadow Drive.

Boot Hill Recreation Ground, Grendon

- 4.1.4 The Board is aware that the sports pitch improvement works at Boot Hill Recreation Ground were completed in November 2020. In furtherance of needs identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy, Grendon Football Club, with which the Borough Council has agreed to enter into a Tenancy at Will, has been very proactive in encouraging and managing appropriate use of the Recreation Ground, alongside the informal access that remains for the local community.
- 4.1.5 The Board has previously been informed that the only affordable means by which to address the need for ancillary accommodation on the site was to address the subsidence and repair the existing brick-built pavilion. Whilst it took longer than originally anticipated, the highly specialised work on the fabric of the building is now complete, further to which the Authority is working closely with the Football Club to reinstate the internal changing accommodation. It is hoped that the renovation of the site will be complete in

time for the start of the next football season, although there may be a need to review car parking provision, in view of the growing popularity of the site.

AccessAble

4.1.6 The Authority has renewed its contract with AccessAble to produce Accessibility Guides for sites across North Warwickshire. The new contract, which runs from September 2022 to August 2027, will provide Detailed Guides and Summary Guides relating to publicly accessible buildings and green spaces across the Borough. In addition, AccessAble will produce Play Area Access Reports for all Authority-owned play spaces, which will include recommendations for how to improve accessibility at each site.

4.2 Tree Management

4.2.1 Whilst the Green Space Officer (Trees) is responsible for the provision of a professional arboricultural service in respect of the Authority's tree stock, Members are aware that this post has been vacant for over a year. For now, therefore, inspections and the associated reactive works are currently being completed by arboriculturists at Warwickshire County Council.

4.2.2 Since April 2022, work has been instructed on 57 different sites and to 118 trees, 15 of which have had to be felled. In five cases, the trees were classified as being "dead, dying or dangerous". In the remaining ten cases, the trees were deemed to be causing a structural issue with property and / or boundary walls or providing some other form of significant obstruction for the local community.

4.2.3 In addition to the replanting of trees previously reported to the Board, a number of initiatives are due to take place during the planting season, including:

Tiny Forest: The Authority has entered into an agreement with Earthwatch to provide a "Tiny Forest" in Coleshill. A Tiny Forest is a dense, fast-growing native woodland around the size of a tennis court (approximately 200 m²), which is combined with an engagement programme to support community ownership and provide social benefits. There is no direct cost to the Authority, as the project is fully-funded and, for the first two years, maintained by Earthwatch. The proposed site is on Station Road, Coleshill, with planting due to start at the end of March 2023.

ReTreeing Ansley: A number of volunteers have planted twenty trees as part of a community orchard within Brett's Hall Recreation Ground, Ansley Common. Tree species include apple, pear, cherry, walnut, hazel, damson and plum.

Local Authority Treescape Fund: In addition to the previously reported tree planting (in Mancetter, Piccadilly, Polesworth and Wood End), a number of additional sites are now being considered for planting through the Local

Authority Treescape Fund programme. This work is being undertaken in conjunction with the County Council.

Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund: Warwickshire County Council has submitted a bid for support to the Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund, to which the Borough Council has pledged its support. The bid was successful, and related work will be reported to this Board in due course.

4.3 Biodiversity and Climate Change

4.3.1 Following considerable promotion of the latest round of Warwickshire Council Council's Green Shoots Community Climate Change Fund, twenty four projects were submitted for consideration from North Warwickshire. Unfortunately, only seven projects were successful in securing funding support:

- Warwickshire Wildlife Trust – working with three community organisations to improve local community green space
- Ansley Parochial Church Council – Replacing the existing lighting with LED solutions
- Warwickshire Climate Alliance – Roadshows to promote easy eco-friendly actions for local residents
- White Hart Community Group – Replacing all lighting with LED lights
- Clean Air Warwickshire – A cycle – buddy scheme to encourage more people to cycle
- Maxstoke Village Hall – Installation of energy efficient hot water, lighting and space heating systems
- Woodside C of E Primary School – creation of a community orchard

4.3.2 The Green Space Strategy sets out a number of priorities in respect of the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity through habitat creation and management, to which the Local Nature Reserves Project is making a significant contribution. The four local reserves are managed through an agreement with Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT). A WWT report on related work is provide at Appendix A.

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4.4 Children and Young People

4.4.1 The Green Space Strategy recognises the vital role of open space in helping children and young people to develop skills through play and social interaction and it commits the Authority to supporting the development of a strategic network of play facilities across the Borough. The Play Area Development Programme has enabled the Authority to meet this commitment through the delivery of an associated action plan.

4.4.2 Members will be aware that, through the Play Area Development Programme, the following sites have been developed / refurbished since 2021:

- Holly Bank, Austrey
- Cole End Park, Coleshill

- Piccadilly
- Corley
- Hurley
- Abbey Green Park, Polesworth
- Wood End

4.4.3 The play areas due for development in 2023 are those located at:

- Kitwood Avenue, Dordon
- Brook Walk, Mancetter

4.4.4 Work will also commence on the installation of a pump track within Brett's Hall Recreation Ground, Ansley Common, in March 2023. Once this work is complete, an event will take place to celebrate its opening, appropriate details of which will be shared with Members in due course.

5 **Area Priorities**

5.1 **Hartshill**

5.1.1 Work has started in Grange Road Recreation Ground to create a circular path and install new benches and bins. This work is being undertaken and funded with the support of Ward Members and, significantly, Hartshill Parish Council.

5.2 **Baddesley Ensor and Grendon (Including Baxterley, Bentley and Merevale)**

5.2.1 Members will be aware of the request received from "Baxterley in Bloom" to create and manage a sensory garden and wildflower meadow within Baxterley Recreation Ground. A Service Level Agreement has been produced and agreed with Baxterley in Bloom, which will now start its work on site in the spring.

6 **Review of the Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies**

6.1 The Board is aware that the audit and assessment work for the Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies was undertaken in 2017 and 2018. Formal Sport England Guidance requires adopted Playing Pitch Strategies to be updated every three years. Similarly, the Green Space Strategy requires review in order to be kept up-to-date to meet National Planning Policy Framework, Local Plan and Supplementary Planning Document requirements. In the case of the Playing Pitch Strategy, if no review and update have been carried out within three years, Sport England and the relevant national governing bodies of sport will consider the information upon which it is based to be out of date. There is, therefore, a requirement for both documents to be reviewed and updated.

6.2 As the Board is aware, a single external contractor has been appointed to undertake the review of both Strategies. In the case of the Playing Pitch Strategy, there is a formal (Sport England) four stage process through which

to progress if the Strategy is to be recognised by Sport England and any potential funding partners. This process involves close engagement with relevant governing bodies of sport. Additionally, the review of both documents will involve detailed audit, site assessment and consultation work.

- 6.3 Work is progressing well in respect of the Playing Pitch Strategy. The Stage A scoping work has been undertaken in conjunction with both the Borough Council and the relevant governing bodies of sport. Stage B data collection is also well advanced, the winter sports site assessments are complete and the consultants are midway through consultation with local clubs and partner agencies, although additional support is being sought from the governing bodies to increase consultation response rates. Due to the timing of the required site survey work, particularly in respect of provision for cricket, a final draft Playing Pitch Strategy can only be developed after the summer of 2023.
- 6.4 It had initially been hoped that production of a draft Green Space Strategy may be possible during the spring. Unfortunately, however, there has been a problem associated with the availability of the required polygon data. This has delayed implementation of the project plan and means that a draft Strategy may not be available for consideration until the autumn. Whilst this is disappointing, the existing Strategy still provides a legitimate framework for the advancement of the Borough Council's related Green Space priorities.

7 Report Implications

7.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 7.1.1 The financial implications arising directly out of this report are identified within the Green Space Strategy Action and Funding Plan and within the Playing Pitch Strategy. The corresponding actions will be financed through approved budgets, through external funding support or through developer contributions.

7.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 7.2.1 Projects advanced through the Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies contribute to community safety by providing well-managed open space and recreation areas that afford opportunities for positive activity.

7.3 Legal, Data Protection and Human Rights Implications

- 7.3.1 There are no legal, data protection or human rights implications arising directly out of this report. The proposed lease with Atherstone Sports Club, in respect of its use and development of Royal Meadow Drive Recreation Ground, has previously been considered by both this and the Executive Board.

7.4 Environment, Climate Change and Health Implications

- 7.4.1 Delivery of priorities identified in the Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies contributes directly to environmental improvements, enhancement

of biodiversity and mitigation of the effects of climate change. It also helps to build sustainable and vibrant communities.

7.5 Human Resources Implications

7.5.1 There are no human resource implications arising directly out of this report.

7.6 Risk Management Implications

7.6.1 There are no direct risks consequent upon the services identified within this report. The activity that is included within the Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies, however, will be risk assessed and appropriate controls put in place, where appropriate.

7.7 Equalities Implications

7.7.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report. The Authority's green spaces and playing pitches are provided for the benefit of the whole community and no group or individual defined by the protected characteristics under the Equality Act will be excluded therefrom. The work being undertaken in conjunction with AccessAble should lead to further improvement in the accessibility of public spaces, as well as the quality of information available to the community about the accessibility of those sites.

7.8 Links to Council's Priorities

7.8.1 The North Warwickshire Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies have direct and positive links to the following corporate priorities:

- Safe, liveable, locally focused communities
- Prosperous and healthy
- Sustainable growth and protected rurality
- Efficient organisation

7.8.2 Additionally, implementation of the provisions of the Strategies contributes directly to the attainment of the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy to:

- Raise aspirations, education attainment and skill levels
- Develop healthier communities
- Improve access to services|

The Contact Officer for this report is Becky Evans (719346).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No.	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	North Warwickshire Borough Council	North Warwickshire Playing Pitch Strategy (2018 to 2031)	January 2019
2	North Warwickshire Borough Council	North Warwickshire Green Space Strategy (2020 to 2033)	January 2020
3	Director of Leisure and Community Development	Play Area Development Programme	January 2021
4	Director of Leisure and Community Development	North Warwickshire Green Space and Playing Pitch Strategies Progress Report	October 2022



Report on Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Support for Local Nature Reserves Management in North Warwickshire April 2022 to March 2023



Introduction

The following comprises a summary of works delivered over the last 11 months by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (“WWT”) in connection with Abbey Green Park, Cole End Park, Daffern’s Wood and Kingsbury Meadow Local Nature Reserves (“LNR”s). There is a remaining month in March 2023 where further works on sites are planned.

The principle aim of management is to maintain and enhance these high value sites and their habitats for wildlife – these primarily being woodland, grassland, wetland habitats and ruderal/scrub. This is achieved through practical delivery of management often utilising local volunteers and the communities that use the sites and building diversity for nature. It’s important to ensure the habitats maintain a good condition as this perpetuates structural and age diversity of the habitats that benefits a wide range of species from birds, mammals and invertebrates. Water is part of all four sites, and this is an essential facet for the wildlife that calls the sites home and is important to sustain. Of note, the spring and summer being the most important months for breeding for a host of wildlife, practical tasks are limited to maintenance, meadow management and invasive species control as detailed in the

management schedules with woodland management and tree planting undertaken during the autumn and winter as a rule.

Headlines

Over the period of reporting, there has been **a total of 89 individual incidences of volunteering** occurring at the sessions **across 4 sites on 18 sessions**.

The work achieved has been varied and detailed below, but cumulatively the time committed by the **volunteers equates to 396 hours. This can be represented as 56.57 days of volunteering input.**

Based on the £14.00 rate for volunteering value this totals and in-kind cash value of £5,110.00 for the period being reported on.

Summary of Activity:

Cole End Park:

The summer works of Himalayan Balsam pulling and maintenance of the newly planted tree whips and plug plants were completed in the correct season at Cole End Park. The grassland management was completed at the end of autumn and across winter coppicing of the woodland blocks and some additional tree planting was completed.



Tree planting at Cole End Park to increase tree species diversity and age structure which benefits more wildlife and the resilience of the woodland.



Balsam pulling at Cole End Park to reduce the impact of the invasive species on our native wildlife and reduce the spread in the water catchment

Abbey Green:

Balsam was also pulled before seeding in early summer and summer grassland management saw the 'top meadow' cut and raked by Trust staff and volunteers. Later in the year reed pulling occurred in the river back channels to stop it choking the water course and a new volunteer leader was trained who has been supported to successfully lead some sessions for local volunteers. This is a positive example of local people taking action and the Trust is appreciative of the recruitment of the volunteer and the input into the site. We look forward to being able to support that further across 2023/2024.



Maintaining the back water channels to retain open water and the right balance of reeds and open vegetation to benefit birds and invertebrates

Kingsbury Meadow:

A third of the sedge bed was cut, a proportion of the invasive bramble was cut back (see photos) along with other scrub and the drier grassland areas were started. As a bonus, the walking path on the south side of the brook received a cut back whilst there were brushcutters on site. Further work over the winter included more grassland and bramble patch management.

Of note, the sedge bed has increased its total extent due to the repeated yearly management and this important habitat is important to wetland species of invertebrates. The Hurley Brook project for woody debris to alleviate the flow and increase wetland habitat through more variety in the channel has been delayed due to the permitting requirements of the Environment Agency. This will be pursued and completed across 2023/24. Finally, the willow arches received some repairs in the winter months to further stabilise and maintain the living structures.



Grassland management at Kingsbury Meadow to maintain a diversity of wildflowers for pollinators



Sedge bed cutting at Kingsbury Meadow to retain the extent and condition of this important wetland habitat



Bramble control at Kingsbury Meadow to promote new growth and benefit butterflies and pollinators



Willow arch repairs at Kingsbury Meadow

Daffern's Wood:

Tasks for 2022/23 woodland management has been postponed and the resource of time allocated to other LNR's due to the delay with the management plan sign off and TPO consenting processes. Some low-level bramble clearance has occurred but there is a need

to consult with the local community about the future woodland plan and get this in place for the next 5-year period.

The school in New Arley will be visiting the site with the Trusts education team in March 2023 and will be taking wildlife inspiration back to improve their school grounds for wildlife on from the visit and supported by the Trust staff.

'Woodland Wellbeing' work parties led by colleagues have added value to our work and engaged local people at the Cole End Park and Daffern's Wood. They have undertaken low key tasks on site such as path cut back and cleaning interpretation boards. Finally, a woodland wellbeing taster course was run in Daffern's wood under our Team Project and further one was delivered in October 2022.



Bramble control at Daffern's Wood to promote ground flora for a wider array of spring flowers and assist in natural regeneration of tree saplings

Volunteer Input

Below is a breakdown of the volunteer sessions and hours committed for the 11 months of this report to date (a complete report for the year will be submitted in April 2023).

Activity Name	Role/Site	Start Date	Vols	Sum of Hours	Sum of £ value	Comments
VOL Local Reserves Groups	LRG Abbey Green	29/01/2023	2	6	£84.00	Clearing reed mace
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Abbey Green	21/10/2022	5	25	£350.00	Reed pulling / grasslands / litter pick
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Abbey Green	24/10/2022	5	25	£350.00	Reed pulling/ Grasslands/ Litter Pick

VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Abbey Green	27/07/2022	7	35	£490.00	Grass raking
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Daffern's Wood	13/02/2023	6	30	£420.00	Bramble + Coppicing
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Daffern's Wood	21/11/2022	8	32	£448.00	Grassland Scrub Management
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Kingsbury Meadow	26/09/2022	3	15	£210.00	Sedge bed cutting / bramble cut
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Kingsbury Meadow	20/02/2023	3	15	£210.00	Wetland Scrub Management
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Kingsbury Meadow	23/01/2023	4	20	£280.00	Willow Arches/ Scrub/ Russian Vine
VOL PV TVW	Tame force - Kingsbury Meadow	15/11/2022	4	22	£308.00	Grassland Management
VOL PV TVW	Tame force - Cole End Park	12/04/2022	9	45	£630.00	Tree planting
VOL PV TVW	Tame force - Cole End Park	03/05/2022	9	45	£630.00	Install 2 x interpretation boards, balsam
VOL PV Wilder Wellbeing	WWB Cole End Park	27/04/2022	3	9	£42.00	Bird survey & invasive species management
VOL PV Wilder Wellbeing	WWB Cole End Park	23/06/2022	4	8	£28.00	Balsam management
VOL PV Wilder Wellbeing	WWB Cole End Park	03/08/2022	3	6	£28.00	Litter pick
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Cole End Park	12/08/2022	2	10	£140.00	Balsam / Trees weeding
VOL Nature Force / Friday Force	NF Cole End Park	07/11/2022	6	30	£420.00	Grassland management
VOL PV Wilder Wellbeing	WWB Cole End Park	21/09/2022	6	18	£42.00	Scrub management
		Total	89	396	£5,110.00	Match funding at £14 p/h

Karl Curtis – Director of Nature Reserves

Karl.curtis@wkw.org.uk

Tel: 07740082552

www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

Photo credits: WWT 2023

Agenda Item No 9

Community and Environment Board

27 March 2023

Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development

Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations

1 Summary

- 1.1 Borough Council support for outside organisations is provided in many ways, including through its Annual Grants scheme and through wider partnership agreements. This report considers the allocation of the Annual Grants funding for 2023 / 24.

Recommendation to the Board

- a That Members note the work undertaken by the organisations funded through the Annual Grants scheme in 2022 / 23; and**
- b That Members determine the level of funding, if any, to be awarded in 2023 / 24.**

2 Consultation

- 2.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant Members and any comments received will be reported at the meeting.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 Through its provision of financial assistance to voluntary and outside organisations, the Borough Council seeks to ensure cost effective support for a broad range of services for the community of North Warwickshire. In pursuance of this objective, this report considers applications for assistance through its Annual Grants to Outside Organisations scheme.

- 3.2 Having addressed the corporate need to reduce the annual grants programme by £20,000, the Board made the following awards in 2022/ 23:

- North Warwickshire Citizens' Advice: £31,100
- North Warwickshire First Responders: £500

3.3 The total sum available for disbursement as annual grants in 2023 / 24 remains at £31,600.

4 **North Warwickshire Citizens' Advice (NW CA)**

4.1 Members will be familiar with the nature of the request from NW CA and the need to link any annual grant award to the negotiation of an approved annual Service Level Agreement (SLA). Through the Agreement, the Borough Council seeks to ensure the delivery of mutually compatible outcomes in return for its investment. Wherever possible, these outcomes are linked to the objectives and priorities of the Borough Council and of the North Warwickshire Sustainable Community Strategy (2009 to 2026), which sets out three key priorities for improving local quality of life (raising aspirations, developing healthier communities and improving access to services).

4.2 NW CA is monitored through the production of a report that details the support work that has been provided to the residents of North Warwickshire. The report covering the period from 1 April 2022 to 31 December 2022 is attached at Appendix A. In brief, the report outlines that, in this period, NW CA dealt with over 1,600 separate cases, with clients presenting with an average of almost eight issues per case (a significant increase on the previous year). The most common issues related to benefits, utilities concerns and financial services and capabilities.

4.3 During this period, the key reported outcomes are:

- 120 benefit claim increases, reinstatements or new awards, with a total annualised value of £381,673
- £22,837 procured for clients through charitable grants and emergency fuel or food referrals
- £21,759 saved through energy, financial capability and budgeting advice
- 412 clients reporting improved health and enhanced capacity to manage their own individual circumstances

4.4 In 2022 / 23, the Board awarded the organisation an annual grant of £31,100 towards its core functions. This sum was paid in two half-yearly instalments, with the second payment being made further to a review and satisfactory completion of work in the first six months and with the prior agreement of the Chair and Vice-chair of the Board. If Members determine to make an award to NW CA in 2023 / 24, it is recommended that payment is made through a similar process and that the Chair and Vice-chair additionally approve the content of the SLA before any award is made.

4.5 For the Board's information, the Borough Council was able to offer NW CA a payment of £40,000 in 2021 and 2022 through COMF funding to support the employment of an additional member of staff to help with short-term capacity issues during the pandemic. Subject to application, the Authority also provides financial support to NW CA through the Discretionary Rate Relief scheme.

5 North Warwickshire First Responders

5.1 North Warwickshire First Responders is a group of local volunteers who are trained to respond, in conjunction with the West Midlands Ambulance Service, to emergency calls through the 999 system. The volunteers provide immediate care to patients in cases where the prompt arrival of an ambulance may be delayed. Its members are trained to deliver care in a range of emergency situations, including in respect of basic life support, defibrillation in cardiac arrest situations and oxygen administration.

5.2 Community First Responders normally operate within a three to five miles radius of their home address, although the North Warwickshire volunteers respond to incidents across the Borough, as well as to incidents in Nuneaton, Bedworth and Tamworth, where they are the closest available resource.

5.3 At the time of writing this report, no feedback had been received from North Warwickshire First Responders regarding its use of the £500 funding awarded in 2022 / 23 and no request had been received for support in 2023 / 24.

6 Funding for 2023 / 24

6.1 As identified, the level of funding available for disbursement as annual grants remains at £31,600 in 2023 / 24. The Board, therefore, may wish to consider maintaining the nature and level of allocations that it made in 2022 / 23, subject to it being satisfied that the organisations had made appropriate use of the support received from the Borough Council. For clarification, the level of support was as follows:

- NW CA: £31,100
- NW First Responders: £500

7 Report Implications

7.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

7.1.1 The financial implications associated with the 2023 / 24 Annual Grants scheme are addressed in the main body of the report.

7.1.2 Supporting community and voluntary sector work is a cost-effective way for the Borough Council to maintain service provision for the residents of North Warwickshire.

7.2 Safer Communities Implications

7.2.1 There is no direct safer communities implication arising directly from this report, although NW CA's work, particularly with regard to the provision of financial advice, can help to prevent people from resorting to criminal activity to resolve their personal problems.

7.3 Environment, Climate Change and Health Implications

7.3.1 Providing financial assistance to community and voluntary sector organisations is a cost-effective way of increasing local service provision and helping to enhance individual and collective quality of life.

7.3.2 The activities of the organisations identified in this report positively impact upon people's health and wellbeing. NW CA support groups and individuals in a wide variety of ways that enhance personal and community wellbeing. North Warwickshire First Responders' work is entirely focused on looking after the health and welfare of the local community.

7.4 Human Resources Implications

7.4.1 There are no human resource implications arising directly out of this report.

7.5 Risk Management Implications

7.5.1 There is no change to the risk management implications previously reported to the Board consequent upon the content of this report.

7.6 Equalities Implications

7.6.1 An Equality Impact and Needs Assessment has previously been undertaken, which did not highlight any negative impact consequent upon the proposed financial awards. The advice offered by NW CA helps to provide equality of opportunity and address inequality within the local community.

7.7 Links to Council's Priorities

7.7.1 The provision of financial assistance to community and voluntary sector organisations has positive and direct links to the corporate priorities in respect of:

- Safe, liveable, locally focused communities
- Prosperous and healthy
- Sustainable growth and protected rurality
- Efficient organisation

7.7.2 Additionally, the Borough Council's Annual Grants scheme contributes directly to the attainment of the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy to:

- Raise aspirations, education attainment and skill levels
- Develop healthier communities
- Improve access to services

The Contact Officer for this report is Becky Evans (719346).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No.	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	Director of Leisure and Community Development	Report to Community and Environment Board (Financial Assistance to Outside Organisations)	March 2022

North Warwickshire Citizens Advice

Report to North Warwickshire
Borough Council
1st April 2022 – 31st December 2022



Figures from NWCA

April 1st 2021 – September 30th 2021.

a) Opening hours

- Monday: 9.00am – 4.30pm
- Tuesday: 9.00am – 4.30pm
- Wednesday: 9.00am – 4.30pm
- Thursday: 9.00am – 4.30pm
- Friday: 9.00am – 4.00pm

Face to face advice

Face to face advice is currently available after an initial assessment by phone or email, or a client can drop in during our office hours.

Telephone advice

Monday to Friday: 10:00 – 2:00

Since June 2022 we have also been trialling an out of hours telephone service to help people unable to access our service during normal working hours. This service is provided from 5:00pm – 7:00pm on Monday evenings.

Email advice

We aim to respond to email enquiries within 3 days.

b) Number of enquiries

NWCA dealt with **1612** enquiries in this period.

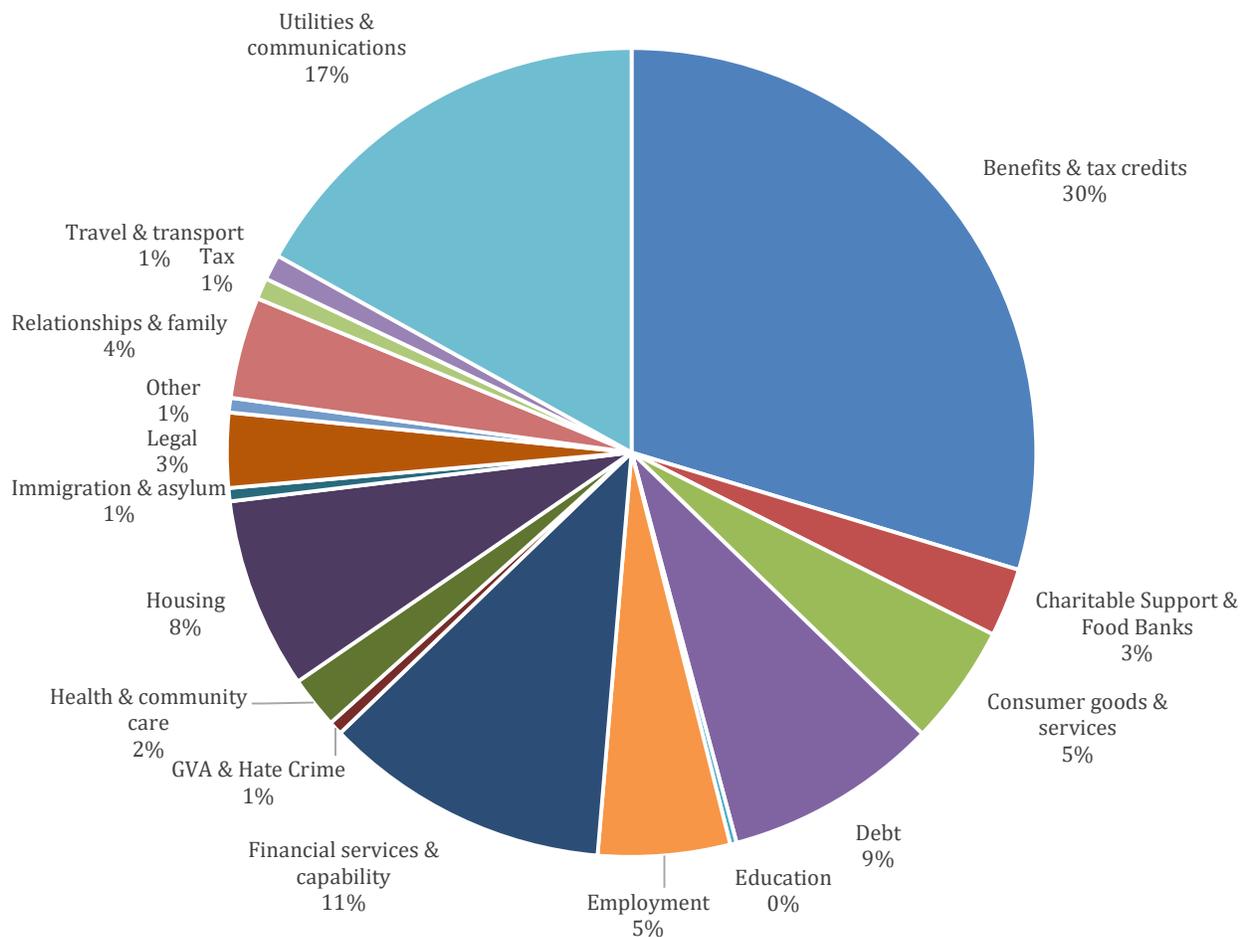
NWCA also delivered group sessions at outreach locations across the district; more information is included at the end of this report.

c) Enquiries categorised by complexity:

Our clients during this period presented **12,741** issues, representing an average of **7.9** issues per case.

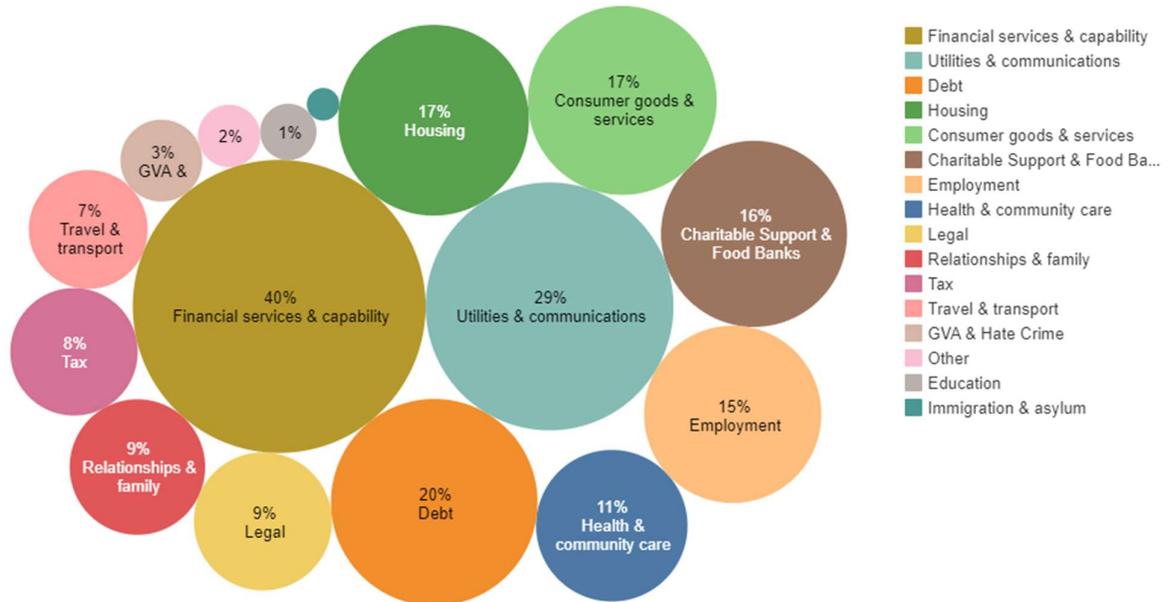
The three most common issues were:

1. **Benefits** - 29.7%
2. **Utilities & communications** – 16.9%
3. **Financial services & capability** – 11.5%

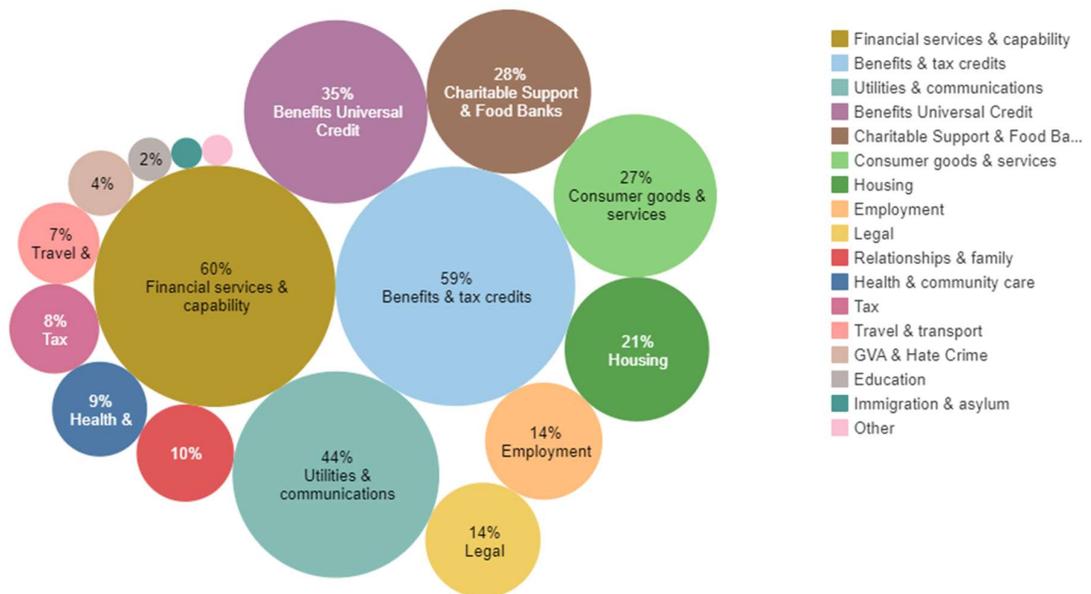


Most people we helped were experiencing multiple issues. The cluster diagrams below show some of the most common linked issues.

Benefits linked issues



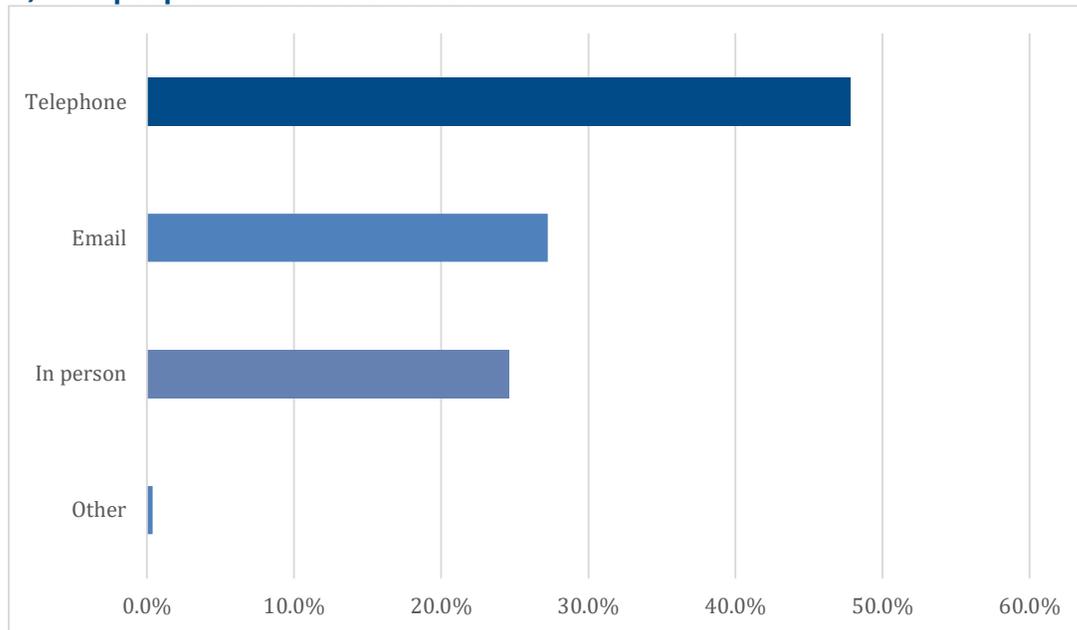
Debt linked issues



Highlights:

- Over half of the people we helped with debt issues also needed help with a benefits issues. Over a third needed help with Universal Credit.
- 17% of the people who needed help with benefits also needed help with housing issues such as eviction, as did 21% of the people we helped with debt.
- Around 10% of the people we helped with both debt and benefits also need help with serious relationship and family issues such as divorce and child custody.

d) How people have contacted us:



e) Paid staff

North Warwickshire Citizens Advice currently employs 10 staff, FTE 6.5.

f) Volunteers

There are currently 23 volunteers working with North Warwickshire Citizens Advice. These include administration and trustee roles, but consist predominantly of Advisers who typically give either one or two days of their time, each lasting 5-6 hours, for advice sessions via face to face, telephone, email and Zoom.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, several volunteers have decided to retire having devoted a number of years volunteering to NWCA. We currently have a recruitment drive to bring in more volunteers for varying roles.

g) Training sessions undertaken by staff:

The bureau delivers a monthly training session, usually on the last Thursday of each month. Attendance is mandatory for all volunteers and paid staff. During this period, the following training was delivered:

Training Plan April 2022 – December 2022

<p>April 2022</p>	<p><u>Money Helper – Pensions</u></p> <p>Training delivered by Pension Wise, a service from Money Helper, backed by government. We were informed that they offer free, impartial guidance to over 50s.</p> <p><u>Key areas addressed in training by Money Helper.</u></p> <p>At a Pension Wise appointment, the pensions specialists will explain how each pension option works and the other things clients need to think about. They'll also explain how each option is taxed and provide information about how to look out for scams. Pension Wise help clients to make an informed decision about taking money from their pension pots.</p> <p>Clients can have an appointment if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are aged 50 or over, and • have a UK-based defined contribution pension pot (this could be a personal or workplace pension). • <u>Guidance on the types of pensions</u>, including for the self-employed, how to understand the details of specific pensions, and how to check how pension savings are growing. The State Pension age is the earliest anyone can claim State Pension. State Pension age depends on when the client was born. Staff and volunteers made aware there are some changes to the State Pension age now. For people reaching State Pension age now, it will be age 66 for women and men. For those born after 5 April 1960, there will be a phased increase in State Pension age to 67, and eventually 68. • <u>Pension Credit</u> (separate from State Pension) Pension Credit – This gives extra money to help with living costs if the client is over State Pension age and on a low income. Pension Credit can also help with housing costs such as ground rent or service charges.-Clients might get extra help if you're a carer, severely disabled, or responsible for a child or young person. Clients can get Pension Credit even if they have other income, savings or own their own home. • <u>Workplace pensions</u> are set up by employers to let you save money for retirement. The employer normally has to make you part of the pension scheme and pays into it for you. Some workplace pensions are called 'occupational', 'company' or 'work-based' pensions. Generally, there are two types of workplace pensions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined benefit pensions • Defined contribution pensions <p>There are also pensions that are a middle group between the two. These are called 'hybrid' or 'cash balance'.</p>
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<p>May 2022</p>	<p><u>Diversity and Equality Training -Equality and Inclusion Partnership</u></p> <p>It is important for our staff and volunteers to understand how to adhere to the Equality Act 2010 and how it affects clients either in everyday life or in the workplace.</p> <p><u>Key areas covered in training by EQuip</u></p> <p>In the training staff and volunteers explored the concept of cultural harmony and raised our awareness about different cultural influences. The course also increased knowledge of the diverse communities in our area and how to overcome common barriers to community engagement. In the coursed, we explored different terms and concepts used surrounding culture and cultural awareness.</p> <p><u>Training outcome</u></p> <p>staff and volunteers can recognise and understand that we all have different values shaped by our diverse cultural backgrounds. By being respectful of others and accepting that their opinions, feelings, and rights matter – even if they are different to our own, and this allows us to build a better personal and professional relationships, and to be able to live and work in harmony.</p>
<p>June 2022</p>	<p><u>Volunteer Week</u></p> <p>Volunteers’ week is about celebrating and thanking those who give up their time to make a difference at NWCA.</p> <p>It is an opportunity to bring our volunteers together. Finding and keeping volunteers takes time and effort, so thanking them is a priority.</p> <p><u>Volunteer celebration day activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All volunteers received a certificate of thanks. • Organised group activities to reinforce the importance of teamwork and to give an opportunity for volunteers to socialise with one another. • Group activities for mental health awareness and support so that volunteers could share a common problem and get support and advice from each other.
<p>July 2022</p>	<p><u>Capita and DWP – PIP training</u></p> <p>Capita is an independent company working with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to carry out Personal Independence Payment (PIP) assessments across England and Wales.</p> <p>The DWP looks at the assessment report, '<i>How your disability affects you</i>' form and any other evidence provided by the client to make a decision on a client’s PIP claim.</p> <p><u>Key areas addressed in training by Capita and DWP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Capita health professional assessment does not decide whether PIP is awarded. This is done by DWP using the assessment report and any other evidence supplied.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIP assessments are not medical. The health professional will not diagnose a condition or recommend treatment. It is a functional assessment to understand how a health condition or disability affects the client. • PIP is a non-means tested benefit, meaning a client can make a claim whether they are in or out of work. • An assessment will be with a qualified health professional. • Clients are encouraged to bring someone along to the assessment. • Assessments usually take around an hour. • If the appointment is face-to-face or over the telephone, clients can ask to have their assessment recorded. • Clients not happy with DWP’s decision, can ask for them to relook at their case. <p><u>PIP tips for staff and volunteers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarise yourself with the application form and read over any PIP literature that you have. Read through the 12 activities and ask the client to choose the ones which they think apply. • If more time is needed for the PIP application process, because of a hospital appointment or a holiday, the client can contact the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) immediately to request this. If the client cannot collect additional evidence in time don’t worry as it can be sent after the deadline date. However, it is essential that the application is made in time, or the claim could be refused • Always fill out the boxes for extra information and state the obvious in the assessment because it won’t be obvious to the assessor. Provide real-life examples for each activity, particularly if there are any safety concerns or risks involved with the client carrying out the task, and provide as much detail as possible. <p><u>Assessors must consider the following factors for each activity:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the approach (how the person carries out the task, what assistance is required, and how long it takes to complete the task and whether it is safe) 2. the outcome (whether the activity can be successfully completed and to what standard) 3. the impact (the effect that reaching the outcome has on the individual and others, and whether the individual can repeat the activity in a reasonable timeframe to the same standard) 4. the variability (how an individual’s approach and outcome changes overtime, and what impact this has on them).
September 2022	<p><u>Safeguarding</u> Safeguarding training at NWCA breaks down the appropriate courses of action to take, empowering staff and volunteers by giving them the skills and knowledge they need to appropriately report abuse and neglect.</p> <p><u>Aims of the session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is meant by abuse • Signs and symptoms of abuse • What action to take

- Other sources of help and advice

Policies and Procedures

The training outlines the core principles of safeguarding good practice, responding to concerns and legislation using our office safeguarding policies for guidance. It's important we have a policy because we provide services to a range of adults, and we may suspect or be told about current or historic abuse or neglect. Our safeguarding policies and procedures will ensure that staff and volunteers are able to deal appropriately with these situations.

Types of abuse covered in training.

- Physical abuse.
- Domestic violence or abuse.
- Sexual abuse.
- Psychological or emotional abuse.
- Financial or material abuse.
- Modern slavery.
- Discriminatory abuse.
- Organisational or institutional abuse.
- Neglect or acts of omission.
- Self-neglect

Radicalisation and safeguarding guidance given to staff and volunteers what to do if they are concerned about an adult at risk of becoming radicalised. Our staff and volunteers will be mindful of radicalisation and report any concerns using our safeguarding adult and children policies.

Handling disclosures

In training we cover confidentiality and safeguarding. It is important that our clients can trust us and know that the information they disclose is treated in confidence. However, if we have suspicions or information has been disclosed in relation to abuse, we have a responsibility to take action. Our principles do not override the need to protect adults at risk from abuse. In accordance with the principle of empowerment, training covers the decision on whether a safeguarding concern should be discussed with the person the concern is about and how to gain their permission to report the concern. Training also looks at situations when confidentiality between us and the client needs to be breached without their permission. This includes situations where the person we're concerned about is in serious and immediate danger and there's no time to get permission, it's not possible to get permission or the person is not able to give permission (abuser is always present). Discuss the concerns with your designated safeguarding lead or senior as soon as possible.

Our Office procedures

1. Record the information accordingly.

	<p>2. Discuss the concerns with your designated safeguarding lead or senior as soon as possible.</p> <p>3. The designated safeguarding lead will devise a plan of action that may include a referral to external authorities such as the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) (Children) or the Adult Social Care team.</p> <p>Staff and volunteers should not act as investigators. It is important that they only record the information that is provided to them and that they do not ask leading questions.</p>
<p>October 2022</p>	<p><u>Away Day</u></p> <p>A day identified by trustees and CEO to have well informed discussions and debates with staff and volunteers on strategic options for NWCA moving forward. The time was focused on staff and volunteers working together on answers to questions with the potential to be transformative.</p> <p><u>Focussed discussion groups.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What’s working well and where are the risks at NWCA. • a collaborative sense of direction for all.
<p>November 2022</p>	<p><u>Debt</u></p> <p>The training helped staff and volunteers to gain an in-depth knowledge of the tools available, how to offer budgeting support and how to refer to a debt specialist. The aim of the training was to be able to help clients to find sustainable solutions for presenting problems, to help them to become debt free, giving them real hope for the future.</p> <p><u>Key areas covered in training.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a <u>Debt Management Plan</u> which is an agreement with creditors managed by a financial company. • an <u>Administration Order</u> when there is a county court judgment (CCJ) or a High Court judgment (HCJ) against a client for debts under £5,000. • an Individual <u>Voluntary Arrangement</u> which is managed by an insolvency practitioner • temporary protection from creditors through the <u>Breathing Space Scheme</u> while still making repayments. Clients can only apply through a debt advisor. • option of reaching an informal agreement with your creditors. <p><u>If the debt cannot be paid off</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applying for a <u>Debt Relief Order</u> or <u>Bankruptcy Order</u>

*Training plan suspended during August and December. (Summer holiday & Christmas).

h) Number of formal complaints about the bureau

No formal complaints were received during this period.

i) Key indicators

Comparison Apr 2021 – Dec 2021 with Apr 2022 – Sep 2022

+33.9%
Total number
of issues

+28.3%
Number of
debt issues

+403.7%
Number of
housing issues.

j) Key outcomes



120 benefit increases, reinstatements or new awards for a total annualised value of **£381,673**.



£22,837 procured for our clients through charitable grants and emergency fuel or food referrals.



£21,759 per year saved through energy, financial capability and budgeting advice



412 clients reporting improved health and improved capacity to manage their circumstances.

k) Commentary

NWCA delivers a service five days per week Monday to Friday, via face to face booked appointments, email and telephone (including an ‘out of hours’ telephony service on a Monday evening between 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm. During office hours, clients can ‘drop in’ and speak to an adviser who will make an assessment of the client’s issues and take the appropriate next steps to address the situation. This could include a ‘follow up’ by telephone or email or a booked face to face appointment if the matter cannot be dealt with immediately.

Since the pandemic and then moving into the ‘cost of living’ crisis, we have seen a steady increase in demand, particularly with regard to benefit enquiries, energy matters and financial services. It is noticeable that since the previous years’ report, issues per client have risen from around four issues to nine issues. Individual cases are far more complex and often require a number of interactions between adviser and client to resolve all of the issues. Advisers are also reporting that many of these clients are seeking advice from us for the very first time and are finding themselves in a financial crisis that they have never experienced before.

We have a number of projects that we deliver alongside our core work, including

energy, debt and generalist work which enable us to assist a greater number of clients. For example through two of our energy projects, we are enabled to intensify our outreach work. Being a rural office and with the cost of living crisis showing no signs of diminishing, we have a number of clients who require face to face appointments but cannot afford to travel to Atherstone. These funded energy projects have provided the means for us to attend a number of village locations throughout the borough and whilst we are in attendance, we can also speak to people with other issues such as debt. (These projects are funded until 31/3/23). Apart from the figures provided, we have spoken to over 200 additional people whilst delivering energy group sessions at community groups. (As they are spoken to as part of a group, they are recorded separately for individual funders but not on our Casebook system, therefore the statistics are not included within our figures). There has been a high demand for this service and we have a number of groups that have booked sessions with NWCA for the start of the new year.

Moving into 2023, we are equipping ourselves to meet the changing needs of our clients and the challenges that they and we are facing. We continue to offer a broad range of services together with a flexible approach to accommodate the type of interaction that our clients require. This is reflected in our desire to increase outreach work across our area where funding allows.

Free, confidential advice.

Whoever you are.

We help people overcome their problems and campaign on big issues when their voices need to be heard.

We value diversity, champion equality, and challenge discrimination and harassment.

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Agenda Item No 10

Community and Environment Board

27 March 2023

Report of the Director of Leisure and Community Development

Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2023 to 2027)

1 Summary

- 1.1 Subsequent to its development by the Health and Wellbeing Working Party, this report proposes the adoption of a new corporate Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2023 to 2027).

Recommendation to the Board

That the Board approves or otherwise amends the appended draft Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2023 to 2027).

2 Consultation

- 2.1 Consultation has taken place with relevant Members and any comments received will be reported at the meeting.

3 Introduction

- 3.1 The three-year Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2020 to 2023), a copy of which is attached at Appendix A, was developed by the Health and Wellbeing Working Party and endorsed by the Board at its meeting held in March 2020. The Working Party monitors progress in respect of delivery of the actions identified within the Plan at each of its meetings. The Action Plan has worked relatively well, in that it has provided a framework for activity that is related to the priorities of the Working Party and, thereby, the Borough Council.

4 Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2023 to 2027)

- 4.1 As Members are aware, the current Health and Wellbeing Action Plan concludes at the end of March 2023. Through the Health and Wellbeing Working Party, a new corporate Action Plan for 2023 to 2027 has been drafted, and this is attached for the Board's consideration at Appendix B.

- 4.2 The proposed revised format of the Plan collates the actions by Division, which it is hoped will generate a greater sense of "ownership" of its content. Subject to approval, this would also enable the Working Party to focus its attention on the work of individual Divisions at its meetings. Each of the actions are also be linked to one of the four guiding priorities of the

Warwickshire North Health and Wellbeing Partnership (Access to Services, Reducing Health Inequalities, Housing and Health and Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles). This will help Councillors and Officers to understand the wider strategic context of the health and wellbeing work being undertaken across the Authority.

- 4.3 The Board is invited to consider for adoption both the format and content of the draft Action Plan, attached at Appendix B, the implementation of which will continue to be monitored and developed by the Health and Wellbeing Working Party at each of its meetings.

5 Report Implications

5.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 5.1.1 The health and wellbeing actions within the Plan that are identified as having a cost implication for the Authority will be funded either through approved revenue budgets or secured external funding.

5.2 Safer Communities Implications

- 5.2.1 Tackling evident health-related problems in society, such as alcohol and drug misuse, seeks, amongst other things, to make communities safer places in which to live, work and visit.

5.3 Legal, Data Protection and Human Rights Implications

- 5.3.1 There are no legal, data protection or human rights implications arising directly out of this report.

5.4 Environment, Climate Change and Health Implications

- 5.4.1 The current and proposed activities identified within the Action Plans contribute directly to environmental improvements, enhancement of biodiversity and mitigation of the effects of climate change. It also helps to build sustainable and vibrant communities. If people are in good health, they are more likely to live longer, happier, independent lives and to make a positive contribution to their community, thereby improving quality of life for everyone.

5.5 Human Resources Implications

- 5.5.1 There are no human resource implications arising directly out of this report.

5.6 Risk Management Implications

- 5.6.1 There are no direct risks consequent upon the services identified within this report. The activity that is included within the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan, however, will be risk assessed and appropriate controls put in place, where appropriate.

5.7 Equalities Implications

5.7.1 Hard to reach communities are often those that are most in need of health and wellbeing advice and support. As directed by the Board, interventions are, and will continue to be, targeted at those communities identified as being most in need of related services.

5.8 Links to Council's Priorities

5.8.1 Health and wellbeing activity positively impacts on all of the services provided by the Borough Council and, therefore, links to each of the Authority's corporate priorities:

- Safe, liveable, locally focused communities
- Prosperous and healthy
- Sustainable growth and protected rurality
- Efficient organisation

5.8.2 Additionally, implementation of the provisions of the Action Plan contributes directly to the attainment of the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy to:

- Raise aspirations, education attainment and skill levels
- Develop healthier communities
- Improve access to services

The Contact Officer for this report is Becky Evans (719346).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No.	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	North Warwickshire Borough Council	Health and Wellbeing Action Plan	2020 to 2023

North Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (2020 to 2023)

Aim: To encourage and support the local community to adopt a proactive approach in the positive self-management of their health and wellbeing

Action	Outcome	Timescale	Resource / Cost	Responsible Officer	Progress
Work with partners in support of the delivery of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for North Warwickshire and its associated Action Plan	<p>Borough Council representation on the JSNA Steering Group (once re-established)</p> <p>Contribution to the delivery of specific activities drawn from the JSNA Action Plan</p> <p>Director of Public Health's 2020/21 Annual Report</p>	<p>TBC</p> <p>March 2022</p>	<p>To be determined in conjunction with partners</p> <p>Certain activities will require external funding support</p>	<p>Community Development Manager (CDM) / Community Development Officer (Health Improvement) [CDO (HI)]</p>	<p>JSNA Steering Group to be re-established once the priorities of the Warwickshire North Health, Wellbeing and Integrated Care Partnership are known</p> <p>WCC has a dial-a-ride scheme (IndiGo), which operates to and from Atherstone, Coleshill and numerous villages in the Borough</p> <p>Health indicators highlighted as statistically worse in North Warwickshire when compared to the national average:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smoking at the time of delivery - Adults (aged 18+) classified as overweight or obese - Statutory homelessness – eligible homeless people not in priority need - Killed or seriously injured on the roads - Sickness absence - % of working days lost due to sickness - Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65+) - Cancer screening coverage – cervical cancer (aged 50 to 64 years of age) <p>The full report can be found at: Director of Public Health Report 2020/2021</p>

Encourage and increase the use of open and green spaces throughout the Borough	In conjunction with local communities, organise two Big Day Out events per year	September 2020	£3,000 (£1,500 each event)	Special Projects Officer (SPO) and Community Development (CD) section	Warton: 28 June 2020 – Cancelled due to pandemic Atherstone: 6 September 2020 – Cancelled due to pandemic
	Implementation of specific activities identified within the Action and Funding Plans that support delivery of the adopted Green Space Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy	As identified within the Action and Funding Plans	As identified within the Action and Funding Plans	Green Space Officer	
	In conjunction with partners, complete the project to renovate Meadow Street Garden, Atherstone	May 2020	Funded by LEADER and S106 contributions	Projects Officer (CD)	Phase one of the project has been completed (new hard surfaced footpath, bespoke railings and archway feature, steps / performance space, bollards). Three new benches, interpretation boards and bins are awaiting installation. Initial feedback from residents is very positive, with praise specifically given to the new path in the Garden Planting work has taken place and (in accordance with the Funding Agreement) work has begun to create a “Friends Of” group for the Garden

Reduce the number of Under 18 conceptions in North Warwickshire	Attend the local (WN) Addressing Teenage Conception (ATC) meetings	On-going		CDM	The Community Development Manager is the Borough Council representative
	Actively promote the Health Store in Atherstone	March 2021	Maximum £200	CDO (HI)	Atherstone Health Store (situated in Atherstone Clinic) remains accessible through appointment only. This is the case for all sexual and reproductive health services currently as the service continues to follow clinical guidance and manage the return to services in a safe way. Young people continue to access services through GEH and, when necessary, at Atherstone Clinic
	Financially support the Health Store in Atherstone in 2020 / 21	March 2021	£2,500		<p>The C-Card scheme has received considerable focus in the last quarter. Pharmacies engaged in the scheme have all been visited and restocked and, where necessary, have received update training</p> <p>Lloyds of Long Street has ceased delivery of the scheme. QE School has asked for further training and workshops for young people at the start of the academic year with a view to becoming a distribution site</p> <p>The Office of National Statistics released the most up-to-date information on Under 18 conception rates at the beginning of August 2021. This data relates to the annual rate for 2019 and shows North Warwickshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18.1 per 1,000 Under 18s (an increase from 14.2 in 2018). This equates to 18 young people (an increase from 14 in 2018) • 55.6% leads to an abortion (a large reduction from 85.7% in 2018) <p>Although the figures have increased in 2019, the overall trend is declining when compared to the peak of 2015</p>

<p>Promote the Fitter Futures services in North Warwickshire with a view to increasing the number of scheme referrals and completers</p>	<p>Challenge the current commissioned process, which only allows North Warwickshire residents to access the service if their GP is located in Warwickshire</p> <p>Referrals and completers targets to be agreed with Public Health and the service provider(s)</p>	<p>Oct 2020</p> <p>To be determined</p>	<p>Maximum £500</p>	<p>CDM</p> <p>CDO (HI)</p>	<p>WCC is looking to pilot a 12-months referral pathway for North Warwickshire residents who are registered with a non-Warwickshire GP (providing the practice has 100+ North Warwickshire residents), as well as an email referral form. This pilot was paused due to the pandemic but will be re-visited once referrals are active</p> <p>In Q1, Fitter Futures Warwickshire received 663 referrals (21 related to long COVID symptoms), with 73 referrals in North Warwickshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Slimming World = 43 - Everyone Health = 1 - Physical Activity on Referral = 19 - WW = 10 <p>Due to the very recent re-opening of leisure centres, there are no completion rates available. If people are not comfortable returning to the centre, online / telephone / at home support is available for Physical Activity on Referral clients. North Warwickshire has received five such referrals</p> <p>WW and Slimming World have re-introduced face-to-face weigh-ins alongside their virtual sessions; however, some of the nutrition sections remain online (this is determined by the group / consultant in each area)</p>
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					<p>Additional Adult Weight Management Grant – Warwickshire County Council has been allocated £173,884, which was determined by population size, obesity prevalence and deprivation levels. This funding will provide WCC with an opportunity to deliver 12-weeks targeted weight management and ensure equitable access to those population groups most in need, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities - Maternal Obesity (Ante and Post-natal) - Severe Mental Illness - Physical and Learning Disabilities
Promote the #onething campaign to increase the number of people receiving mini health checks and making personal health pledges	#onething targets to be determined in conjunction with the Healthy Living Network	March 2021	Maximum £200	CDO (HI)	<p>During the pandemic, the #onething health checks were paused in March 2020, with the contract ending on 31 March 2021. As the service contract ended while the health checks were paused, the service will not resume. Therefore, a range of alternative services are available and are being promoted, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -NHS Better Health Campaign - One You e.g. Couch to 5k
Provide a programme of holiday provision for children and young people in the Borough Council's leisure facilities during each school holiday	To be reviewed in the context of the 2021 / 22 Service Improvement Plan	On-going through to March 2023	See SIP	Leisure Facilities Manager (LFM) and Business Development Team (BDT)	<p>A range of activities were delivered at Atherstone Leisure Complex and Coleshill Leisure Centre during the summer holidays, including cheerleading, dance, gymnastics, multi-sports sessions, inflatable fun and swimming lessons. In Atherstone, Family Fun sessions, which included subsidised crafts and sports activities in the Memorial Hall, were offered with funding secured through the free school meals programme. The holiday programme recorded over 1000 attendances and realised an operational "profit" of almost £2,500. This performance exceeds that achieved in 2019</p>

					TopScore Academy did not operate out of Polesworth Sports Centre during any of the 2021 school holidays
Increase the number of members of, and visits to, the Borough Council's leisure facilities	To be reviewed in the context of the 2021 / 22 Service Improvement Plan	March 2022	See SIP	LFM and BDT	<p>In line with Government guidelines, facilities were closed on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2020 to July 2020 • November 2020 • January 2021 to April 2021 <p>During this time, the leisure facilities provided a comprehensive online offer, which attracted 233 new Facebook members</p> <p>Full details are provided within the Leisure Facilities Service Improvement Plan</p> <p>The Leisure Facilities App is now available for download, and allows members to book classes, receive push notifications, and interact directly with the leisure centre. By the end of August the App had been downloaded over 1000 times</p>
Encourage the improvement and accessibility of the walking and cycling networks in North Warwickshire	Promotion of walking through the production of a booklet of all the walking groups in the Borough	Annually	£500	SPO	Since the end of the 2021 lockdown, all 11 walking groups have re-started and are engaged in walks that follow Government guidelines
Support the North Walks group, including in its organisation of two charity walks per year and with its annual trip for volunteers	<p>Delivery of a minimum of two Walk Leader training courses per year</p> <p>Delivery of two charity walks and an annual trip for walk</p>	March 2021, then on-going	£400 per annum	SPO	Due to the pandemic no Walk Leader training has been offered or required
				SPO	Charity walks will be discussed with group leaders in due course, now that lockdown restrictions have been lifted

	volunteers Successful delivery of national cycling events taking place in North Warwickshire in 2021	October 2021	£15,000	CD section	The 3 rd stage of The Women's Tour will be held in Atherstone on 06 October 2021. This stage is a time trial and will cover a 10-mile route, starting and ending in Atherstone. The route travels through the villages of Bentley, Birchley Heath, Ridge Lane and Mancetter
Promote adult and child safeguarding as being everyone's responsibility	Delivery of Child Protection / Child Sexual Exploitation and Safeguarding Adults training to all Borough Council staff and Councillors All Borough Council staff in receipt of safeguarding training within three months of commencing their employment and every three years thereafter	Three courses per quarter	N/A	CDM	Training is currently being redesigned to incorporate both children and adults. In the interim, the deliver of Child Protection training will resume in November Internal and external promotion of Warwickshire County Council's new Child Exploitation Awareness website "Something's Not Right"
Actively promote the HEART service		On-going	£500	CDO (HI)	The HEART partnership (operated from Nuneaton) is continuing to do essential HomeWorks, however the completion of any visits or works is subject to the customer and members of their household being free of coronavirus symptoms
Monitor the delivery of the Timebank Project		November 2021	Funded through the NW	CDM	The Timebank project was a 12-months pilot running across Atherstone and Mancetter and delivered by the Coventry and Warwickshire Co-operative Development Agency from

			Community Partnership		November 2019 to December 2020 The 36 members recruited have been transferred to Warwickshire County Council's Time4Warwickshire timebank programme. This project is due to end January 2022
Identify opportunities to reduce harm from poor air quality in localised areas Assess the impact that the Council's activities have on the environment and the climate and to take steps to ensure that the level of the impact is reduced as far as is practicable, with the ultimate aim of carbon neutrality	Continue to monitor the 29 NOx tubes Submit the Annual Status report to DEFRA Audit what measures are currently in place to address climate change and the Council's current carbon emission levels Identify steps to ensure that the Council's direct and indirect activities achieve net-zero carbon emissions	On-going Annually May 2020 To be determined	To be determined To be determined	Senior Pollution Control Officer Corporate Director (Streetscape) Corporate Director (Streetscape)	29 NOx tubes are located across the Borough to monitor air quality The Annual Status report for 2020 has been submitted to DEFRA Work on climate change is on-going
Actively support and promote good mental health and wellbeing to people who live and work in North Warwickshire	Provide three Mental Health First Aid sessions for a total of 15 volunteers in Arley, Atherstone and Dordon	March 2021	Funded through Suicide Prevention	SPO	Three Mental Health First Aid sessions were arranged for early 2020. A session in Atherstone was conducted with 12 attendees, however the Dordon and Arley sessions were cancelled due to COVID-19. Sessions were moved online due to Government guidelines. The first online course was held in February 2021, with nine attendees. The third course

<p>Work with Warwickshire County Council, the Partnership Trust and the West Midlands Combined Authority in the implementation of their mental health strategies in North Warwickshire</p> <p>Assist the Dementia Friendly Communities Group in the delivery of its Action Plan</p>	<p>Ensure that all Borough Council frontline staff receive Dementia Friends training</p> <p>Establish North Warwickshire Borough Council as a Dementia Friendly Organisation</p> <p>To be determined in line with the Action Plan</p>	<p>March 2021 and then on-going</p> <p>March 2021</p> <p>On-going</p>	<p>£1000</p>	<p>CDO (HI)</p> <p>CDO (HI)</p> <p>CDO (HI)</p>	<p>was held in March 2021, with 11 attendees</p> <p>Dementia Friends is included within the corporate induction for new starters</p> <p>There is currently no recognition from the Alzheimer's Society accrediting organisations as being "dementia-friendly". The Borough Council, however, is an active member of the local Dementia Friendly Communities group, working with local businesses, support groups and organisations to promote the 'dementia friendly' message</p> <p>Many dementia community and support groups were paused in March 2020, due to the pandemic. Some of the various support groups, dementia / memory cafes and carer support services have subsequently re-started</p>
<p>In conjunction with partners, actively promote the FAST service through the Stroke Awareness Campaign in May</p>	<p>To be determined</p>	<p>May 2020</p>	<p>£100</p>	<p>CDO (HI)</p>	<p>Focus at the time was centred around personal safety messages and COVID-19 wellbeing advice</p>

**Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027**

Division	Action	Outcome	Timescale	Resource Implication	WN H&W Partnership Priority	RAG Status	Progress / Comment
Environmental Health	Monitor the 32 NOx tubes across the Borough	Evidenced information relating to air quality in North Warwickshire, leading to opportunities to reduce harm from poor air quality in localised areas	On-going		Reducing Health Inequalities		
	Submit the annual report to DEFRA What annual report?		By when?				
Finance (Incl. Revenues and Benefits)	Work with Financial Inclusion partners across the Borough to ensure residents have access to relevant advice and support regarding their finances and any debt	Reduced debt, including council tax arrears and rent arrears Increased understanding of money management and budgeting	On-going		Reducing Health Inequalities Access to Services Housing and Health		
	Provide a responsive Financial Inclusion service to help with income maximisation and budgeting, and to ensure any	Protected Borough Council revenue stream and improved health and wellbeing of residents	On-going	Funding for FISO role provided from earmarked reserves	Reducing Health Inequalities Access to Services		

**Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027**

	additional needs are signposted appropriately				Housing and Health		
	Cost of Living initiatives to support local residents with access to food, financial support, grants and energy support and other measures including, Warwickshire Warm and Well	Prevented disconnection of energy supply, increased access to appropriate food and funding and supported income maximisation and employment opportunities	On-going	Funding for FISO role provided from earmarked reserves	Reducing Health Inequalities Access to Services Housing and Health		
	Positive Energy Working Group established from NW FIP to concentrate on energy issues only	Development of platform for energy information and the provision of regular newsletters and videos	On-going		Reducing Health Inequalities Access to Services Housing and Health		
	Distribution of Government funding in relation to the Energy Bills Support Scheme (EBSS), Alternative Funding Scheme (AFS) and Alternative Fuel Payments (AFP)	Increased support for residents who may have an alternative fuel supply	From February 2023 Applications end date is May 2023		Reducing Health Inequalities Housing and Health		
	Free School Meal (FSM) campaign to ensure uptake of	Increased take-up of FSM	Starting spring 2023		Reducing Health Inequalities		

**Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027**

	FSM and increase pupil premium – using FSM school data and IDACI data	Increased Pupil Premium for schools Additional benefits for families to increase income			Housing and Health		
	Review Officer Visiting Lone Worker Support Solution (Consider a whole Authority-wide solution)	Improved perception of safety for Officers Completed procurement exercise.	Starting May 2023	Dependent upon procurement outcome	Access to Services		
Housing	Actively promote the HEART service	Sustained independent living and reduced care and hospital needs	On-going	Government grant for capital works. Revenue provided by Local Authority partners	Housing and Health		
	Provide a range of services to prevent homelessness and sustain tenancies	Reduced need for temporary accommodation and crisis Increase in sustained tenancies	On-going	Ring fenced Government grant to support prevention interventions	Housing and Health		
	Respond to residents' concerned about disrepair and the condition of their tenancy	Reduced prevalence of disrepair, damp and mould and consequent poor health conditions	On-going	Revenue funding for staff is provided by the Council to support the work of Private Sector Team	Housing and Health		

**Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027**

	Maintain the Council's own stock to provide energy efficient homes that are free from disrepair	Reduced prevalence of disrepair, damp and mould and consequent poor health conditions	On-going	The Council's Maintenance Team is funded from Tenants' rent payments			
Human Resources and Health and Safety	To provide wellbeing support to employees via HR services, such as counselling, occupational health and Attendance Management Policy and Procedure	Improved support for employees and increased health and wellbeing due to supportive workplace policies and practice Increased level of workplace attendance (reduced levels of ill-health absence)	On-going	Existing budget – Human Resources section	Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		Support for employees and improved health and wellbeing due to supportive workplace policies and practice
	To provide additional mental health support to employees, including corporate Mental Health First Aiders and training for managers and employees	Increased support for employees and improved mental health due to supportive workplace policies and practice Increased level of workplace attendance (reduced levels of ill-health absence)	March 2023 and ongoing	The Council's corporate training budget will fund required training	Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		Increased support for employees and improved mental health due to supportive workplace policies and practice
	Promote adult and child safeguarding as being everyone's responsibility	Delivery of Safeguarding training to all Borough Council	On-going	The Council's corporate training budget will fund the	Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		

Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027

		employees and Councillors, in line with the Council's Safeguarding Policy		training required			
	To provide health and safety support and advice to managers and employees to ensure that the Council complies with Health and Safety legislation	The Council has a safe working environment that considers the health, safety and welfare of employees and others Reduction in the number of workplace accidents and near misses	On-going	Existing budget – Human Resources section	Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		The Council has a safe working environment that considers the health, safety and welfare of employees and others
Leisure and Community Development	In partnership with Polesworth Fire Station, organise a Big Day Out event in Abbey Green Park themed around the Cost of Living	Increased use of open and green spaces throughout the Borough	Spring 2023	To be established, but costs contained within existing budgetary provision	Access to Services Housing and Health Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		
	To update and improve the Authority-owned play areas through the Play Area Development Programme	Increased use of open and green spaces throughout the Borough	2023 / 24: Kitwood Avenue, Dordon, and Brook Walk, Mancetter	As identified in the capital programme	Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		

Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027

			2024 / 25: Royal Meadow Drive, Atherstone				
			2025 / 26: Ridge Lane				
	Provide a programme of holiday provision for children and young people in the Borough Council's leisure facilities during each school holiday	Increased use of Borough Council leisure facilities Improved health and wellbeing of young people	Each school holiday		Access to Services Reducing Health Inequalities Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		
	Formulate an action plan from Poverty Proofing feedback and ensure that the related services continue to improve their accessibility	Increased accessibility across leisure facilities	July 2023		Access to Services Reducing Health Inequalities Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		
Introduce health testing scales (and, subject to external funding, blood testing services) into leisure facilities	An improved member "journey", leading to an increase in membership numbers	May 2023		Access to Services Reducing Health Inequalities			

Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027

	Monitor and review feedback through surveys, verbal customer and staff feedback, and adapt the service to customer needs	Improved perception of services offered, leading to an increase in membership numbers	On-going		Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		
Planning	Allocate S106 receipts towards walking and cycling networks	Improved and increased walking and cycling networks across the Borough	On - going		Access to Services Reducing Health Inequalities Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		
Streetscape	Inspect and maintain play areas, including teen shelters, ball courts and play equipment. To promote outdoor play for all children and a healthy outdoor area for the local community	Increased use of open and green spaces throughout the Borough	On-going	Existing revenue budget – Grounds and Streets	Reducing Health Inequalities Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		
	Maintain green and open space areas, including parks, recreation grounds, estates and verges, to create a safe, clean and healthy	Increased use of open and green spaces throughout the Borough	On-going	Existing revenue budget – Grounds and Streets	Reducing Health Inequalities Reducing Obesity and		

**Health and Wellbeing Action Plan
2023 to 2027**

	environment for all residents and visitors				Improving Lifestyles		
	Carry out street cleaning, fly tip removal and work with volunteer litter picking groups to create and maintain a safe and clean, healthy Borough for all residents and visitors to enjoy	Improved perception of the local area	On-going Spring 2023 work along side Keep Britain Tidy to promote and assist volunteer litter picking groups	Existing budget – Grounds and Streets	Reducing Health Inequalities Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		
	Maintain the Borough Council's leisure facilities and contribute to associated projects and undertakings	Leisure Facilities maintained to the best standard, within agreed budget allocations and a reduction in the number of days lost due to M and E failures	On-going	Allocations identified in the capital programme and within revenue budgets	Access to Services Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles		

Priorities of the Warwickshire North Health and Wellbeing Partnership:

Access to Services
 Reducing Health Inequalities
 Housing and Health
 Reducing Obesity and Improving Lifestyles

Health and Wellbeing Working Party Minutes

28 February 2023

Present: Cllr. M Humphreys (Chairperson), Cllr. Smith, Cllr. Davey, Cllr. Chambers, Becky Evans, David Simkins (WCAVA), Neesha Memetovic-Bye, Chris Florence (both WCC)

Apologies for Absence: Matthew Green (NWBC), Russell Simkiss (NWBC), Mike Slemensek (WCC)

Item	Notes	Action
2	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting (06 December 2022)</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 06 December 2022 were agreed as an accurate record of the proceedings.</p> <p>It was noted that the report on Poverty Proofing is yet to be received from Children North East.</p>	RS
3	<p>Public Health Update</p> <p>A restructure is currently underway in Public Health. The Working Party thanked Neesha for her support during the time she was in post.</p> <p>An update was given on the £100k CCG funding that was awarded to the Warwickshire North Partnership. Through a grant scheme, the following funding has been allocated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £25k to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council for work on suicide prevention • £25k to Warwickshire County Council for a project supporting autism-friendly communities • £25k to GEH to support a Shaping Up for Surgery project <p>The remaining £25k allocation is to be confirmed.</p> <p>The Working Party expressed an interest in the Back to Health Pathway, co-ordinated and managed by GEH. The lead officer is to be invited to a future meeting of the Working Party.</p>	BE
4	<p>Air Quality</p> <p>Deferred</p>	
5	<p>Director of Public Health Report</p> <p>The Working Party noted the contents of the Annual Report and requested that it be consulted on the content of future reports to enable more local intelligence to be included.</p> <p>Neesha to feed back the request to the Director of Public Health.</p>	NM-B
6	<p>Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2023 to 2027</p> <p>The Working Party noted and endorsed the draft Action Plan, which will be tabled for consideration at the Community and Environment Board meeting to be held on 27 March.</p>	

Item	Notes	Action
7	<p>Partner Updates</p> <p>Coventry and Warwickshire CDA has been commissioned to deliver the following Cost of Living workshops in Warwickshire under the Multiply Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saving Energy and the Planet • Balancing Your Budget • Shop for Less 	
8	<p>Budget</p> <p>The hi-tech scales, which were approved at a previous meeting of the Working Party, have been purchased by Leisure Facilities and will be introduced once staff training has been completed.</p>	
9	<p>Feedback from Relevant Partnership Meetings</p> <p>Cllr. Chambers shared the “Worrying About Monday” leaflets, which will be distributed to the Working Party with the minutes and distributed by partners.</p>	BE
10	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>WCC is introducing two new electric mobile libraries to replace the current diesel mobile fleet. This will bring a number of benefits to this valued service, including an increase to the number of mobile library stops available across the county. It will have the following benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new electric mobile libraries will replace the four existing mobile libraries; at present three of these are on the road at any one time, with one on standby • The current vehicles are fourteen years old and require increasingly frequent amounts of time off the road for costly maintenance work. As vehicles with diesel engines, they are also high pollutants and this does not align with WCC climate change and net zero commitments • The two new electric vehicles are much more reliable from a mechanical perspective and can be worked harder during the same time period, with less time required off-road for servicing 	
	<p>Future Meeting Dates</p> <p>To be confirmed.</p>	

Agenda Item No 12

**Community and Environment
Board**

27 March 2023

**Report of the
Chief Executive**

Exclusion of the Public and Press

Recommendation to the Board

To consider, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, whether it is in the public interest that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

Agenda Item No 13

Confidential Extract of Community and Environment Board held on 23 January 2023

Paragraph 2- by reason of information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

In relation to the item listed above members should only exclude the public if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, giving their reasons as to why that is the case.

The Contact Officer for this report is Amanda Tonks (719221).