

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<i>South Bucks Community and Wellbeing Plan</i>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<i>Councillor Patrick Hogan – Cabinet Member for Community, Health &amp; Housing</i>
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	<i>Martin Holt – Head of Healthy Communities</i>
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<b>WARD/S AFFECTED</b>	<i>All</i>

### 1. Purpose of Report

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the positive work undertaken through the South Bucks Community and Wellbeing Plan during 2017/18 is noted by Members.

### 2. Reasons for Recommendations

The South Bucks' Community and Wellbeing Plan annual review details how the Council in partnership with a range of agencies (Thames Valley Police, CCG, Housing Associations, Bucks County Council, CAB & County Sports Partnership) and local voluntary groups has supported communities during 2017/18. This asset based approach to community development empowers community organisations and supports their development and growth to deliver improved services to local residents.

The projects captured in the annual review are important as they provide good evidence as to how the work undertaken by the Healthy Communities Department strengthens local community infrastructure. This work directly supports the Council achieve its key strategic objectives in relation to improving health and wellbeing, enabling a vibrant local economy, protecting the local environment and reducing crime and disorder.

### 3. Content of Report

In May 2017 Cabinet formally adopted South Bucks District Council's first Community and Wellbeing Plan. (Appendix 1) The Plan is important as it provides a co-ordinated approach as to how the Council in partnership with a range of organisations supports local community groups improve local services and facilities. The Plan is broken down into the six key aims detailed below.

- To facilitate community participation, engagement and action, through established and new community networks, to develop sustainable communities
- To support services that improve opportunities for older people to live fuller, safer, more active and ultimately more fulfilling life styles and become more integrated into local communities

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- To improve the health and well-being of the population and reducing health inequalities
  - To provide an environment for young people to enjoy, stay safe, be healthy, active, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being
  - To help stimulate and support a vibrant local economy whilst protecting the environment
  - To encourage collective working to promote and support the rich and diverse wealth of cultural heritage in South Bucks

#### 4. Key Outcomes

A diverse and exciting range of projects have been delivered in the first year of the Community and Wellbeing Plan impacting positively across the South Bucks communities. Appendix 2 outlines these projects with the key highlights below:

- New CAB outreach services in Burnham and Langley GP surgeries
- Supported over 20 organisations through the Council's Community lottery
- Awarded £26,255 in grant awards to 19 community groups, helping support a diverse range of community projects
- Established several new Neighbourhood Watch Schemes
- Established a new Iver Community Car scheme that enables vulnerable older residents to access GP/hospital services
- Developed new older people's service guides in Beeches and Wexham & Iver areas supporting residents to access local services
- Awarded grants to Beaconsfield and Stoke Poges Parishes to enable WW1 intergenerational projects
- Helped co-ordinate the Dementia-friendly events in Burnham and Beaconsfield.
- Supported 60 home adaptations to vulnerable disabled residents
- Supported the Affordable Warmth Network to provide free advice on reducing energy bills and make referrals to grant schemes for heating and insulation improvements
- 168,089 customer visits to Evreham and Beacon leisure centres
- 16,584 walks undertaken by residents of Chiltern & South Bucks through the Simply Walks scheme
- Worked with Bucks County Council and RAHAB (victim exploitation service) to offer modern slavery awareness training to all front line staff within the District Councils and with key partner agencies.
- Managed 97 applications for homelessness assistance and directly secured long term accommodation for 70 of these households.

- Delivered the South Bucks inter schools cycling competition at Evreham Sports Centre attracting 500 students as well as providing ongoing opportunities to participate in sports activity
- Attracted over 3,000 participant visits in a range of outreach activities including walking football, ballet fit, gentler exercise, stretch and flex, knit & natter, yoga and Pilates

## **5. Consultation**

The Community and wellbeing Plan was developed following extensive consultation with a range of partners including:

- Chiltern and South Bucks Strategic Partnership
- South Bucks Parish and Town Councils
- Members of the South Bucks Cohesion and Inequalities Forum.
- Community and voluntary sector groups including local youth groups, business, resident, and community associations.

## **6. Corporate Implications**

### 6.1 Financial

There are no financial implications in developing the plan. Any emerging projects will be met from within the existing leisure and community budgets and match funding from partners.

### 6.2 Environmental

The Communities Team supports various community projects either through advice, signposting or direct funding. Some of these projects will have an environmental impact such as gardening projects, shrub and litter clearance, nature parks and woodlands.

### 6.3 Equalities

The Community and Wellbeing Plan will support a diverse range of community groups including vulnerable elderly residents, young people and BME groups.

## **7. Links to Council Objectives**

Work towards safer and healthier local communities:  
Improve Community Safety

- Work with our key partners to help safeguard children and vulnerable adults and prevent them becoming victims of crime.
- Work with partners to reduce crime, fear of crime and antisocial behaviour.

#### Promote Healthier Communities

- Address the needs of elderly and those who are vulnerable.
- Work with communities affected by the closure of services to deliver them in alternative ways.

#### Promote Local Communities

- Support the voluntary sector and promote volunteering.
- Engage with Parish and Town Councils and local neighbourhoods.
- Work with the local MP, voluntary and community groups through the Cohesion and Inequalities Forum.
- Work to support the economy through enabling development of more affordable homes and the introduction of an economic plan.

### **8. Next Steps**

Following the success of the first year of the Community and Wellbeing Plan it is proposed that the key outcomes captured in Appendix 2 are promoted on the Council's social media outlets and website.