



West Dorset partnership

Date: 30 October 2017
Time: 10.00am
Venue: South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester DT1 1EE

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CONTACT

① For more information about this agenda please telephone Democratic Services on 01305 252211, at South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1UZ or email LQuinton@dorset.gov.uk

📄 The agenda and reports are normally available to view four days prior to the meeting on the the district council's website at <https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/article/2119/Agenda-and-minutes-of-West-Dorset-Partnership-meetings>

Meeting Theme: Rural Transport in West Dorset

A G E N D A

			PAGE NO
10.00	1.	Introductions and welcome	
10:05	2.	LGR Update: Dorset Councils Partnership – Matt Prosser, Chief Executive	
10.20	3.	Rural Transport: a national perspective – Brian Wilson	Presentation
10.40	4.	Dorset Travel: Rural Transport Provision - Dorset County Council – Gordon Sneddon (Travel Operations Manager) & Amanda Evans (Community Engagement & Infrastructure Officer)	Presentation
11.00		Refreshments	
11.15	5.	Discussion on rural transport and issues	
11.50	6.	Notes of the last Meeting To confirm the notes of the last meeting held on 20 February 2017 To confirm the notes of the AGM held on 17 July 2017	3 - 11
11.55	7.	To agree WDP Annual Report	
12.00	8.	LAP matters – items of common interest or of concern	12 - 20
12:05	9.	Partner updates	
12.15	10.	To agree theme for next West Dorset Partnership meeting on Monday 22 January 2018 at 10am at South Walks House, Dorchester	
12.25	11.	Any other business	

**West Dorset Partnership
20 February 2017**

Notes of the West Dorset Partnership meeting held on 20 February 2017 at South Walks House, Dorchester.

Present:

Organisation	Name
Chairman	Paul Overall
Beaminster & Villages LAP	Rosemary Beeny and Joanna Keats
Bridport Local Area Partnership	Maureen Jackson and Katy Graham
Dorchester Community Forum	Emma Scott
Citizens Advice	Daniel Cadisch
Dorset LEADER	Sarah Harbidge
LymeForward	Wendy Davies
Magna Housing Association	David Aldwinckle and Paul Read
Sherborne Area Partnership	Tony Meehan and Simon Thompson
West Dorset District Council/Dorset Councils Partnership	Stephen Hill (Strategic Director) Paul Derrien (Housing Enabling Team Leader) Jane Nicklen (Community Planning & Development Manager), Tessa Greenaway (Partnership Development Officer), Linda Quinton (Democratic Services Officer) .

Apologies:

Organisation	Name
Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils (DAPTC)	Cllr A Thacker
West Dorset District Council	Cllr I Gardner, Hilary Jordan
Steve Underhill and Jason Rogers	Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service
Lyme Forward	A Ragbourne
DA 21	Mike Jones
Dorset Churches Together	Tom Murphy
Sherborne Area Partnership	Eleanor Wilson

1. Introduction and Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all parties present and each attendee introduced themselves.

2 Affordable Housing Update and White Paper Overview

P Derrien, the Housing Enabling Team Leader gave a power-point presentation providing an update on affordable housing and an overview of the Government's recent White Paper "Fixing our Broken Housing Market". The Government wished to see 1m new homes by 2020.

There were currently 1400 people listed on the housing waiting list in the West Dorset Area. Members noted that the current definition of affordable housing covered the following:

- Rented Home – Social Rent – Affordable Rent
- Shared Ownership
- Discounted Market Homes
- Rent to Buy
- Intermediate Housing

The White Paper was suggesting new proposals such as a standard mechanism for setting housing delivery targets; additional compulsory purchase powers for Councils of undeveloped land; new rent standards post 2020 and no specific targets for starter homes on developments. A revised definition of affordable housing was being proposed as follows:

- Starter Homes
- Discounted market sales housing
- Affordable private rent housing
- Intermediate housing to include rent to buy

The Housing Enabling Team work with numerous organisations and local authorities to deliver affordable housing. In West Dorset affordable housing completions had slowly declined from 110 in 14/15 to 66 in 16/17. A number of external funding schemes were open to bids, subject to meeting the relevant criteria. Community Land Trusts had been successful in West Dorset with 39 completions since 2014 and there were currently another 15 in the pipeline in Lyme Regis. There were a number of benefits to CLT schemes; developing otherwise undeveloped sites to benefit local people and with access to grant funds. Officers were looking to establish CLTs in other areas.

Another area receiving support was "extra care" where the elderly were housed in accommodation with warden assistance, if required and communal areas. The County Council was particularly keen to see these schemes developed to ease pressure on their social care budgets and bed blocking in hospitals. A significant scheme was nearing completion on Poundbury.

Other new projects included working on exceptions sites; working with the county council on land disposals and working with new housing providers.

D Aldwinkle and P Read gave a background to the work of Magna Housing Association. They currently hold 9,000 homes, 5,700 of which were in West Dorset; 1450 are sheltered for the over 55's; 3700 are general need; 300 leasehold and 150

shared ownership. £46m was received from rents and service charges and £16m spent on maintenance. Magna currently had a debt of £110m paying £4.1m in interest. They employ 360 staff. The stock includes 300 social rented properties and the tenants paid an average of £90 - £100 per week. From 2021 Magna would start a building programme to provide 200 houses per year.

Magna operates in 7 local authority areas and West Dorset and West Somerset were their main areas. Of the people on the waiting list, 1 bed flats represent the highest demand. Social housing schemes were being or had been built in Sydling, Portesham and Sherborne, Dorchester and Bridport. Magna was also a keen advocate of extra care housing.

Members debated the lack of 35% affordable provision within a number of development sites where the development was shown to be not viable. Officers acknowledged the frustration at not being able to enforce that provision.

The White Paper was silent on the right to buy, although Magna indicated that any houses they sold in the future (if subject to right to buy) would be at market value, and the capital receipt used to build new. Rural exception sites had created opportunities for 100% affordable schemes. A recent appeal decision had allowed 15 affordable units at Holwell.

The Strategic Director set out the background to an accelerated home building scheme within the Dorset Councils Partnership. A working group of members was looking at the scheme which was aimed at people in need of affordable social rented housing and by putting pressure on developers and housing associations. He added that building extra housing wouldn't cure the housing crisis, however if Local Authorities entered in to a partnership with an "arms length" company, this would avoid the right to buy obligation. £300,000 had been put into the scheme so far with further funds anticipated in March.

Members discussed sites throughout the District that had planning consent but remained undeveloped. Land owners were coming forward with areas for development within the Local Plan review which was currently underway.

D Cadisch of the CAB advised that the majority of clients at his office were affected by housing issues. Recruitment of key workers was also an issue in some areas due to the difficulty in finding affordable housing. Magna was looking at new ways to engage in the community and would happily speak to members regarding their area issues.

The Chairman thanked P Derrien, D Aldwinkle and P Read for their presentations.

3 Local Plan Review Update

T Greenway advised that the Local Plan Review was currently underway and Planning Policy Development Staff were in Sherborne that day for public consultation and would be working around the District. When the Plan was adopted in 2015, the Inspector advised that a review would need to be undertaken as soon as possible as the Housing Land supply identified in the Plan was only just sufficient to make the Plan sound. Areas of land for potential development were being brought forward for consideration and the Plan review would potentially take up this housing land

supply up to 2036. Members of the public could have their say on the review on-line and the appropriate links would be circulated to members.

4. Future Working of WDP and LAPs

The Partnership agreed that the discussion on the government's White Paper and the Affordable housing issue had been worthwhile. The meetings should continue to be more outcome focussed so members could have a useful debate on like minded issues and cross-cutting themes. The AGM was on 24 April at 10am and a theme needed to be identified. Officers requested that a group of members from the Partnership liaise with officers on-line on the theme and who to invite. Officers would try to get the Chief Executive or a member of the Senior Leadership Team to attend the AGM, depending on availability.

5. Notes of the last meeting.

The notes of the previous meeting on 21 October 2016 were agreed subject to the inclusion of R Beeney of BAVLAP being recorded as attending the meeting.

Matters arising :

The food banks meeting on 10 February was chaired by Revd Briggs and was well attended. The notes would be sent to Oliver Letwin MP who attended the event.

Members noted that a LAG spring forum was taking place in Beaminster on 7 March seeking bids for Leader grants in the forthcoming year. Tessa would circulate the details.

The Chairman advised that the Climate Change Group were meeting on 10th March, and would be discussing support for renewable energy in West Dorset and improving the energy efficiency of the existing housing stock in order to reduce carbon emissions.

Officers would establish when the results of the CCG consultation would be available and circulate details if forthcoming.

6. LAP matters – Reports previously circulated

Bridport – nothing to add

Dorchester – the first draft of the Dorchester Community Plan would be available in March 2017.

Lyme Regis – a bid had been put in for the Dorset Community Fund, looking to do holistic research on people who seek assistance and advice from the CAB – there was a basket of “better together” issues to be examined. A bid would be put in for funding gaps in the system.

Beaminster – attempting to get local police to attend a dementia friendly meeting. (The NFU had approached BAVLAP as there are many elderly farmers with dementia). There had also been significant spates of agricultural theft, with no action by the police. Members noted that there had been a decline in the police attendance at meetings. (Jane has subsequently contacted the Police about these issues.)

There was also disappointment that DCC had not appointed a Children's Centre officer.

T Greenway explained, following communication from Superintendent Fiona Grant, that police were happy to attend local meetings for specific topics if time and other commitments allowed.

7. Partner Updates

The CAB had Universal Credits training coming up and were taking on a new apprentice.

Community transport was a suggestion for a future meeting theme.

The Chairman pointed out that this was Tessa Greenaway's last meeting and wished her well for the future and thanked her for her hard work and contribution to the work of the Partnership.

The meeting closed at 12.25pm.

Chairman

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West Dorset Partnership Annual General Meeting

Monday 17th July 2017 at South Walks House, Dorchester

Present:

Paul Everall (Chairman), David Aldwinkle (Vice Chairman), Councillors Tony Alford & Alan Thacker (WDDC), Cllr Sherry Jespersen (NDDC), Luke Rake (Chair of Dorset Rural Enterprise Group), Brian Wilson (Rural Service Network), Rosemary Beeney (BAVLAP), Jo Keats (BAVLAP & SAP), Maureen Jackson Adrian Stuart (DTC), Wendy Davies (LF), Daniel Cadisch (Dorchester & Sherborne CAB), Mike Jones (Agenda 21 & Sustainability), Tom Murphy (Churches Together) Stephen Hill, Jane Nicklen, Susan Ward-Rice, Hugh de longh, Julie Hursthouse, Kathleen Boston-Mammah (all DCP)

Apologies: Alex Picot (DCA) Hilary Jordan, Adrian Ragbourne (Lyme Forward) Katy Graham (BLAP) and Emma Scott (DTC)

1. Welcome

Paul Everall, Chairman, welcomed all to the AGM. To help set the scene; Cllr Tony Alford (WDDC) gave an update on the current LGR position. It is understood that the Minister is likely to make his 'minded to support' announcement "soon". In the meantime, the County Council is continuing to work towards Unitary in spring 2019, albeit within compressed timescales. A Joint Committee will be set up in September to start planning work, and there will then be an Implementation Executive which requires a Parliamentary Order to be set up.

2. Election of Vice-Chair

David Aldwinkle, the current Vice Chair, offered to stand again for the post. There were no other candidates. All members were in favour of his re-election, none against & no abstentions, so he was duly re-elected.

3. Core Rural Issues

Luke Rake, Chair of Rural Enterprise Sub Group, Dorset LEP

Luke is also the Principle of Kingston Maurward College, and sits on the South West Productivity Commission, so brings both a local and regional perspective.

Rural Enterprise is not about farming, it is about rural sustainability. The role of the Rural Enterprise Group is twofold:

- Upward: Taking rural issues up to the LEP Board, informing, advising and lobbying on the economy of the rural areas (i.e. the full breadth of the economy in rural Dorset, in essence the Dorset County Council area).
- Downward: communicating the investment priorities of the LEP Board, and the managing the impact of urban versus rural

In more detail, the role includes:

- Rural Priorities Paper, keeping this updated
- Promoting economic productivity and wages
- Links with the EARDF, DEFRA, etc.
- Championing the LEADER programme
- Rural proofing the work of the LEP

With a key focus on skills, productivity, wages a maintenance of sustainable communities, some of the relevant factors are:

- Infrastructure, Broadband in particular, and other infrastructure such as the north/south road network
- VAT levels, for small businesses, and employment costs
- Managing growth through the planning system, particularly around housing and getting the balance right
- An aging population, growth of the care sector, and skills level within that sector (generally low wage and skill level)
- Incomers, using their skills
- Destination Management, moving tourism focus away from the coast and extending the season. Likewise tourism can be low wage and seasonal
- Although there is very low unemployment, there is some underemployment, with people working below their skills level.
- Increasingly difficult for businesses to find staff, transport problems and housing costs
- Rural areas have quality of life, e.g. Kings College London has relocated its IT support to Newquay. Is it possible to develop sector clusters on similar basis?

Luke Rake could see a role for more locally led structures, e.g. CICs, and recognised the benefits of more flexible funding which could support local initiatives.

In the discussion that followed, some common issues came up:

- Concern that rural Dorset was not receiving fair funding through the LEP. The LEP is very aware of this perception. Interestingly, if Unitary authorities go ahead, then there will be two Unitary Authorities, one urban, one rural, and that will focus the funding debate more clearly. And the

- LEP priority sector areas, e.g. advanced engineering, finance, food & drink, can all take place in rural as well as urban areas
- Role of the voluntary and community sector. There was concern that the role and the value of this sector were under recognised and unrepresented at a strategic level.
 - Potential role for WDP and LAPs working with the REG

4. Changing Nature of Service Provision in Rural Areas

Brian Wilson, Rural Services Network

The Rural Services Network is a policy level lobbying organisation (<http://www.rsnonline.org.uk/>). Brian Wilson is also involved in Rural England, an independent rural research organisation (<https://ruralengland.org/>).

Two relevant documents are:

- State of Rural Services, 2017, which covers trends in 9 different service areas: <https://ruralengland.org/category/reports/>
- Rural Coalition Statement 2017 <https://www.nfuonline.com/assets/97683>

The main factors in recent changes are:

- Move to on-line provision of services, e.g. banking, retail, Local Authority services, benefits, etc. This has also had an impact on market town centres such as Beaminster which has no bank.
- Demographics of the older age groups. This is happening everywhere, but faster in the rural areas. It is having a big impact on adult social care and health services, and also on housing.
- Austerity, with reductions in Government grants to Local Authorities of around 40%
- Competitive pressures in the private sector

As a consequence, there is an overall trend of services provided by the public and private sector decreasing, and the services provided by the voluntary and community (third) sector increasing most significantly in rural areas.

The cuts to rural bus services have been severe, with three counties having no subsidised bus services at all (including Cumbria). Voluntary schemes are developing, but mostly cover the health & social side, and cannot often help people get to work or training. The rural schemes tend to be smaller, and more dependant on fares to go towards costs and some will continue to need grant support.

In 2015, there were 650 bank closures in rural/coastal areas. The loss of rural banks is forcing people to bank online, easy for some, very difficult or impossible for others. Access to cash is becoming a particular problem for some businesses and residents; the Post Office is filling a gap here, with a considerable rural network, and the ability to host bank accounts for the main banks, although it was commented that there is a high fee cost for businesses using this service.

Community action is growing and covers a wide range of activities, with more community-run village shops (277 across England, another 100 being planned). Befriending / good neighbour schemes are growing. And many existing institutions, which are at the heart of community activity, such as village halls, still need considerable volunteer input, but often all the same people.

Local groups and communities generally 'get' sustainability, e.g. when involved in Neighbourhood Plans, etc.

This level of community & voluntary activity doesn't happen everywhere, some places don't have the capacity, skills, etc. to do. Infrastructure organisations which support the voluntary and community sector are vital.

Capital funding can be difficult but not impossible, but revenue funding is a real challenge.

The change to Unitary will create opportunities, but the new Unitary Authority will need help to deliver locally from both local Councils (Parish & Town Councils) and from the community sector.

In summary, there are many changes going on, some quite fast, and mostly inter-relating

In the discussion that followed, some common issues came up:

- Comments from the Community Partnerships covered local changes, such as the loss of bus and banking services (Beaminster), growth in second / holiday homes hollowing out some communities (Bridport), and the consequences of cuts at a local level sometimes working against other services, so the need for a local perspective & local budgets (Lyme Regis), and the need to retain or bring in young people (Dorchester)
- Gap between the unitary authority and the local level. Town & Parish Councils clearly have a key role at a local level, but the voluntary and community sector also do. How can the local level organise itself to fill this gap, so the local level can have an input into the Unitary level, and help it work at a local level? This needs both commitment from the Unitary Authority and some early thinking by all about possible ways to fill this gap.

The meeting thanked both Luke Rake and Brian Wilson for very interesting and thought-provoking presentations.



REPORT TO THE WDP

30 October 2017

Organisation Name: Bridport Local Area Partnership

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Your organisation's priority/ priorities	BLAP's role as a consultation facilitator	Provision for homelessness	Preparing for Local Government reorganisation at the parish level
Objective/s (what are we seeking to improve?)	There are several big-impact strategic projects underway in the BLAP area. As these projects are being lead broadly by the district and county councils, there is a role where BLAP can help to bridge the communications gap between the grass roots communities/organisations and the local authorities to enable meaningful and productive consultation.	Looking at what local action the partnership can undertake to improve the support offered to local homeless/rough sleepers	The likely move to a unitary authority raises many potential impacts and opportunities at the parish level. Certain services are under threat of being reduced or removed altogether, but by working together, the town and parishes could be a more effective delivery vehicle to ensure rural communities continue to receive the services they need.
Evidence of Need	Feedback from the partnership	The initiative for BLAP having a working group to look at need for homeless/rough sleepers was conceived by the Chair of BLAP, Maureen Jackson and the Manager of the CAB, Rovarn Wickremasinghe and ratified at the Partnership's Annual Assembly in March. The evidence of need was put forward by our CAB and reports from the local food banks.	The BLAP area has good experience of what joint working can achieve, through projects such as the Lengthsman scheme. The consultation on the Local Government Review reflected a lack of consideration or awareness of what is going to happen or what can be achieved at the community level, so the BLAP parishes have decided to take action themselves and get

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
			<p>into a strong position in time for the new council structure.</p> <p>At a meeting in June 2017, the parishes agreed that the joint meetings were very useful and BLAP should continue to co-ordinate them.</p>
Action (how will we achieve this?)	Through communication with partners and wider organisations and taking action where needed	By working with key organisations that provide homelessness support and related services to explore where there may be gaps in provision and/or additional resources or facilities required.	<p>Joint parishes meetings and actions as required and agreed in preparation for the move to a unitary authority.</p> <p>Contact has been made and will be maintained with Darren Gunter, who is lead officer for the unitary project.</p>
Led by (name of person/ Organisation responsible)	BLAP	BLAP	BLAP
Timescale (date to be completed by)	Ongoing	Ongoing, but hoping to achieve an outcome of additional support being in place by Spring 2018.	Ongoing through the move to unitary and potentially continuing after
Key outcomes (how will we measure success?)	Target for the next 6 months: To be the conduit for local consultation on at least 4 key local, resulting in the sharing of information and collating and submitting local feedback	<p>More effective partnership working to provide the best service for local homeless people/rough sleepers</p> <p>Additional support/facilities to extend the current support on</p>	Continue to meet as a cohesive area and identify assets and services that are important to protect, and could be more effectively managed at the local level.

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
		offer	
<p>Progress Update (what has been achieved as at the date of review, how are you progressing against your planned outcomes)</p>	<p>Completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Wellbeing strategy • Council reorganisation consultation • Clinical Services Review • Vearse Farm Masterplanning • Antisocial behaviour order <p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbourhood Plan • Bridport Connect project • Strategic input of BLAP to issues related to Health and Well Being and lobbying for the joined up thinking between Social Care and the CCG 	<p>Completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three meetings with key organisations to explore the local issue, what services/support is currently on offer and any perceived gaps in provision. • Production of a contacts list of local agencies and organisations for the local Food Bank and others to pass on to users • A snap poll 'perception survey' of homelessness in Bridport undertaken at the Melplash Show <p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local organisation survey of homeless numbers and needs • Examining potential for a 'Food Bank Plus' to offer extended services to those in need with e.g. personal and clothing washing facilities, access to a microwave to heat food, kettle, tea and 	<p>Completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four meetings have taken place so far with the town and thirteen parish councils represented. • Contact has been made with Darren Gunter, raising questions about emerging reorganisation plans and asking for the local parishes to be kept informed • Discussion has also taken place with WDDC about community representation on an external board to be established to advise WDDC on potential service devolution. <p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parishes to identify services important to their area and the group to consider options for joint working to deliver some of these services at a local level • Next meeting is in

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
		coffee etc. plus advisors on hand for a variety of needs	November
Comments (Barriers to progress – reviewed action to overcome barriers)	None – good progress has been made	A working group has been set up with members from appropriate organisations including Magna, Cupboard Love Food Bank, Footprint, Pilsdon Community, the CAB and others with related experience. This has already identified some gaps in communication, which, by meeting as a collective, can be overcome more effectively.	None – good progress has been made
RAG (red/amber/green)*	Green	Green	Green

Any questions about this report to Katy Graham, Project Manager, 01308 456722 k.graham@bridport-tc.gov.uk

REPORT TO THE WDP**20 Feb - 10 October 2017**

Organisation Name: Dorchester Community Forum



	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Your organisation's priority/ priorities	Complete Community Action Plan	Strengthening Community/voluntary sector	To support and develop key projects – initially around improved mental health support
Objective/s (what are we seeking to improve?)	Summary of key priorities arising from Community Directory	Improved communication between different community groups and statutory and private sectors to allow more effective outcomes	
Evidence of Need	To focus local resources where they are most needed - from planning work	Sense of overlap in some areas of provision and gaps in others	Increases in threats to mental health particularly for younger people
Action (how will we achieve this?)	Review of Community Directory Further engagement and consultation with partners Community Lunch in December Action points for each identified priority	Attend number of conferences and events to increase number of own contacts Initiate some themed meetings to bring partners together Encourage joint working where shared goals identified	Meet with middle schools and Thomas Hardy School to devise pilot mental health project Work with partners to develop mental health project e.g to establish a MIND worker in town
Led by (name of person/ Organisation responsible)	Emma Scott - DCF Dorchester Town Council Key partners as identified in action plan	Emma Scott - DCF Co-work with other Community Development Workers and Community Connectors Liaising with wider Dorchester Community Forum	Dorchester Youth Extra CAMHS MIND Thomas Hardy School Other local MH projects
Timescale (date to be completed by)	End October for Community Plan Key projects all to make progress by End April	End June 2018	End September 2018

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Key outcomes (how will we measure success?)	Production of Community Action Plan	Development of an online community directory/forum Continued advice about project planning and delivery to local community organisations 3 themed meetings held	Delivery of a mental health pilot project by end July 2018 Input to CAMHS review
Progress Update (what has been achieved as at the date of review, how are you progressing against your planned outcomes)	Nearly complete	Links identified - flagged up to groups – already underway Themed meetings discussed	Planning of pilot project underway and potential funders identified Links made to several partner organisations
Comments (Barriers to progress – reviewed action to overcome barriers)	Daily workload impacts on time available for more strategic planning	Wide range of views as to how best to achieve better coordination Changes in existing services, personnel etc make it harder to keep information current	Schedule of partners & challenges of working with schools Funding
RAG (red/amber/green)*	Green	Green	Green

Any questions about this report to Emma Scott, Community Development Officer on 01305 819463 or e.scott@dorchester-tc.gov.uk

Summary of LymeForward activities June to September 2017

1. Report on Health and Wellbeing Group

The Health & Wellbeing Group has consolidated to a core membership of 11 volunteers, many with good professional experience in different parts of the health service. One is a Board member for Dorset County Hospital; another is a Board member for Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust, which provides community services to all of Dorset except for this area, for which Virgin holds the contract.

Its priority is the CCG's Primary Care Commissioning Strategy, covering the future arrangements for providing both GP/medical services and Community Health Services in the LymeForward 'patch'. The CCG will be re-commissioning both these elements for 31 January 2019, with vital implications for the area.

The group is therefore:

- working closely with the CCG Primary Care team and locality Primary Care Programme Officer so that, as far as lies within our power, the CCG's specifications for tendering will take account of local circumstances and priorities, and that its strategy will be publicised.
- making a careful quantitative and qualitative study of the services currently provided, aiming to understand fully the nature of the provision, its strengths, weaknesses and gaps; the policies and budgets of providers; and the identity of those who make decisions about service provision. Each group member has responsibility for an aspect of provision (for example, primary care, community services, mental health, social services, care at home, local welfare support groups, transport, Dorset Public Health and its Joint Strategic Needs Assessments, etc); information is being gathered through face-to-face meetings with service providers and from public domain sources, and shared across the group. These actions are providing hard-edged baseline data, one of the elements against which any new service proposals must be tested.
- in touch with the Patient Participation Groups for each local GP Practice.
- building a relationship with Dorset Healthwatch, the official patient voice for the county.
- maintaining contact with similar developments across the border in East Devon (which, in some important respects, appear well in advance of the Dorset situation).

Specific actions have included:

- in late June, preparing (at CCG request) a paper outlining the priority needs of the nearly 9,000 registered patients across Lyme, Charmouth and the hinterland (including Uplyme) covered by the commissioning process. This paper, analysing local factors and illustrating the types of decentralised services the area needs, was compiled at very short notice; its contents will be progressively updated as the group's knowledge and understanding increases.
- ensuring a strong local presence at the invitation-only CCG 'consultation' event at the Woodroffe School on 26th June.
- subsequent to that event, the HWG Chair and Ken Lavery met with the senior 'leads' on the CCG's team concerned with the new contracts in an attempt to clarify timescales, procedures and the degree of HWG involvement in the specification process. The CCG's report of its own findings about local needs is imminent. A further meeting is scheduled for January.
- analysed the difficulties in reaching medical appointments, chemists, social support and the like that face those (particularly if with limited mobility) unable to access or afford transport. The Coordinator arranged a meeting on 21st June with several transport operators and Town Council representatives. The Council's restoration of the 71 town service is very welcome; but in itself cannot be a complete solution to the problems with access to medical and social care for many people – a point being made forcibly to the CCG.

The Coordinator's background networking amongst the vast range of statutory and voluntary bodies

that make up the health and welfare landscape has been an essential fertiliser for much of this work. As the HWG develops its contacts and expertise, that particular burden should be more widely shared.

Meanwhile, the Coordinator has worked tirelessly, helped by professionals and key volunteers, to develop Lyme-based support groups and other mechanisms helpful to those with particular needs. These include operating the Food Bank and addressing other needs raised by its users; re-establishing Community Lunches at the Marine Theatre; facilitating Cookery Classes for single men; arranging local parent liaison meetings; setting up the 'Altogether' support group that meets twice weekly, once in Lyme and once in Charmouth, for those with mental health conditions; and establishing the 'Meet and Remember' group that meets weekly in the Library for those with dementia.

2 Report on Coastal Community Team / Economy

The CCT is now chaired by Tony Colston, who has substantial business experience, including locally. The group has member representatives from Lyme, Charmouth and Uplyme; additional members are being sought with wider business experience and contacts.

The CCT focuses on both the delivery of several projects as well as the development of a number of longer term initiatives. Current projects include:

- *Lyme Trail*

£275k of funding has been secured to upgrade the path between Lyme and Uplyme along the River Lim. The project is progressing as a result of a number of stakeholder meetings and coordination by Simon Williams. Gates have been replaced and some signage updated; engagement begun with Dorset Art Development to explore nature and extent of art interpretation; discussions held with procurement teams in East Devon and Dorset to maximise efficiency with contracts; various site meetings held with contractors. Public consultation in Lyme and Uplyme is planned for October 2017.

- *Public WiFi*

£12k of funding has been secured towards the delivery of public WiFi along the seafront. Proposals and surveys have been provided to LRTC for approval, a supplier identified, and an installation date was agreed for early September. LRTC (part funding the project) has placed it on hold for the moment: a go-ahead is needed by October or funds will be reallocated to another town.

- *Litter reduction*

The CCT has part-funded a litter picking station as part of a Dorset-wide litter project. Branding is agreed, the station is designed and built for delivery in the week commencing 20th September. The CCT is joining Dorset Litter-free Forum with a view to improving efficiency of waste management in Lyme and Charmouth.

- *Lyme Regis Sculpture Trail*

LRTC has underwritten funding (£5K) for 2018. The Dorset Art Development Company has been engaged to train a curator so that new sculptures can be secured for 2018 season following removal of existing sculptures in January 2018.

- *FaceForward*

Supporting 15-24 years old NEETs (not in education, employment or training), this Ansbury-run programme uses a variety of local activity providers to help get young people on a journey to employment. A partnership agreement between Ansbury and LymeForward is in place, so LymeForward can now make referrals for young people to engage with and be supported by the FaceForward programme.

- *Working Links*

'Working Links' provides support to long term unemployed people by identifying and addressing barriers preventing them from finding work. The 'links to work' programme will visit Lyme library on Wednesday mornings with LymeNet who will provide career counselling alongside assistance with finding work. 'Links to work' will provide counsellor sessions and ongoing support to help people stay in work.

- *Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) Round 5 funding bid in 2018*

The public workshop following the AGM in July aimed to identify potential projects for a collaborative (pan-area) bid within an overall enhancement programme. Over 50 separate ideas for development emerged, which the CCT team has sifted and prioritised for CCF funding purposes. Work is in hand to investigate some of the ideas further, and a public presentation was made on July 28th as to possible bid themes. Further dialogue with DCLG over the viability of bid themes has taken place.

3. Forward plans (subject to Steering Group review)

(a) *Town Council requirements*

- Developing engagement with the business community / supporting the development of the business group [New]
 - A preliminary meeting has been held with Ian Girling, Chair of Dorset Chamber of Commerce, to better understand potential models to bring businesses in Lyme and area together in a cohesive business group.
 - A public event is proposed for October to bring businesses together, to hear the various plans being explored for Lyme, ideas from Ian Girling, plans from LRTC, and recommendations from the existing Lyme Regis Business Group.
 - From this event a potential working model for Lyme Regis, perhaps a Chamber of Commerce, would be developed if sufficient interest is shown.
- Promoting a safer neighbourhood / liaising with the police and other emergency services [New]
 - The Coordinator and PCSO Luke White have discussed the current situation regarding local presence and future risks such as annual scheduling of police work, their lack of resources, and their focus only on statutory obligations.
 - Developing this initiative requires LRTC and the Steering Group to define realistic objectives clearly and to ensure on-going coordination of engagement with the relevant police and other authorities.
 - (Members will recall the earlier coordination with the Fire & Rescue SAIL team to attend local groups.)
- Developing Lyme Voice as a consultation vehicle
 - Currently with LRTC for next steps.
 - Meanwhile, the Coordinator has investigated a consultation portal called 'Engagement HQ' and will be trialling it for some CCT projects.
- Including improved facilities in Langmoor and Lister Gardens as part of a grant application to the Coastal Communities Fund

This was incorporated in the workshop and would form a key element of the seafront enhancement programme bid.

(b) *Health and Wellbeing Group*

- continue to develop, encourage, consolidate and sustain local health and wellbeing

support groups, liaising with volunteer group leaders and publicising activities

- complete baseline data analysis for current GP/medical and community services, plus associated welfare support services;
- receive, review and respond to CCG report on its initial findings;
- share HWG findings and expectations with managers / budget holders of key providers, in particular for mental health, social services and child health;
- meet with senior staff from Dorset Healthwatch and Axe Valley Health and Wellbeing Hub to coordinate actions as relevant;
- establish closer links with the three PPGs and Joint PPG (the Chair of Lyme Regis Medical Centre PPG is joining the HWG), and with the CCG Locality Programme Officer;
- progressively update the HWG's June paper for the CCG to reflect developing knowledge and understanding, prior to January meeting with the CCG team;
- share information with local residents through publicity;
- increase the evidence base through extended consultation, on individual / small group basis as far as practicable, to include personal stories where these are representative;
- seek additional external funding that may help with such research;
- build recognition among commissioners and providers that the HWG is an important element on the ground in quality assurance of services.

(c) *Coastal Community Team*

- Bid to Round 5 of Coastal Community Fund (for January 2018)
Following the workshop on 3rd July and open meeting on 28th July:
 - refine the bid concept and content, taking into account any further submissions;
 - summarise and publicise the overall project concept and the various elements within it, inviting further public comments and ideas;
 - hold an open public meeting to present and debate the proposed bid;
 - write the final bid for submission to Round 5 of Coastal Community Fund, and/or otherwise suitable grants.
- Waste reduction and management
An Initial meeting has taken place with Karyn Punchard, Director of Dorset Waste Partnership, with agreement to identify ways of reducing waste across Lyme and Charmouth, improving the visual impact of the seafronts, by for example:
 - introducing Big Belly compacting bins;
 - using microchips to alert DWP when bins are approaching full;
 - making more flexible use of resource for clearing other rubbish;
 - extending recycling by introducing more recycling points and a more flexible service.
- Beach wheelchairs
A resident has committed to fund an additional wheelchair that can float in the sea, and if necessary a process for booking and management.
- Sustain relationships with key stakeholders, identify grant opportunities within the CCT community and support CCT members with their project plans.



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