

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
SOCIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 14 MARCH 2017
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR (HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES)

YOUTH AND SPORT PARTNERSHIPS ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Youth and Sports Partnership work is delivered by the Youth and Sports Partnership Officer and supported by the Community Partnerships Events Apprentice and Manager. Despite limited resources, the Youth and Sport Partnership's work has continued to grow and develop over the past year. The activities and events programme has improved, and a number of new youth and sport initiatives in the borough have been introduced.
- 1.2 The team has successfully engaged with the local community, and especially with young people across the borough. New partnerships and relationships have also been developed with local, county and regional organisations.
- 1.3 Successes of the past year included another record-breaking year for both the Dragons Apprentice Challenge and National Playday event as well as the introduction of the first Welwyn Hatfield "This Girl Can" campaign. As well as success in the delivery of the Disability Sports Hub, Youth Council, Young Carers Awareness and developments with regards to young people and mental health.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the content of this annual report.

Implications

3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications directly related to the content of this report. The Service has its own budget which is agreed annually as part of the Council's overall budget process.

4 Link to Corporate Priorities

- 4.1 The content of this report is linked to the council's corporate priority for '*Maintain a safe and healthy community*' and '*engage with communities and provide value for money*'.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications directly relating to the content of this report.

6 Climate Change Implications

- 6.1 There are no climate change implications directly relating to the content of this report.

7 Risk Management Implications

- 7.1 There are no risk management implications directly relating to the content of this report.

8 Explanation

The Service's key activities and events over the past year are set out below:

8.1 Dragons Apprentice Challenge 2017

The fourth Welwyn Hatfield Dragons' Apprentice Challenge began at the start of October 2016. It involves seven teams of A-level Business students competing to raise the most money for their paired charity and by doing so being as creative and entrepreneurial as possible.

The teams of students from each school are tasked with turning £100 into £1,000 or more for their charity, and have until the end of February 2017 to do so. Along the way, they are set to learn vital business skills as they are guided through the process by their 'dragons' a team of business experts from around the borough. All eight teams will attend "Judgement Day" on 17 March 2017 at Barclays HQ, Canary Wharf London where they will be interviewed. This will enable the Super Dragons to make an informed decision on who will win which awards at the a grand finale awards ceremony taking place in March 2017.

Four new charities joined the programme this year: Hertfordshire Action on Disability (HAD), Isabel Hospice, Herts Young Homeless and Carers in Hertfordshire.

8.2 YAMA Festival (Youth Arts, Music and Activity)

The Council funded and delivered, in partnership with Pro-Action and Youth Connexions, the first Welwyn Hatfield YAMA festival in July. The event was attended by young people across the borough. The event engaged with young people on activities that they wouldn't usually try or engage with normally, it was a huge success, with a new model which would be more countywide being looked at for 2017, funding dependant.

8.3 Youth Council

There are currently 16 members of the Welwyn Hatfield Youth Council who meet on a weekly basis to discuss relevant issues, and contribute to improving the lives of young people within Welwyn Hatfield. Schools represented are: Stanborough, Monks Walk, Sir Frederic Osborn, Bishops Hatfield Girls, and Onslow St Audrey's.

The Youth Council have been proactivity working on their Priorities for 2016/17 and have and continue to deliver excellent outcomes:

- Mental Health and General Wellbeing for Young People (Continue the work of the Unsaid Campaign to improve service and support for young people's emotional support and wellbeing).
- Body confidence and self-image (Recognise the impact of social media trends, recognising the signs and symptoms of eating disorders and self-harm).
- Young Carers (Providing more support for schools to identify and support Young Carers and raise awareness of more support needed for young carers)

In addition to the above campaigning. Welwyn Youth Council will be represented at number of community events such as Crucial Crew, Houses of Parliament visit, Healthfest, This Girl Can, Young Carers Away Day, Christmas Light Switch on and will be engaging with young people to ensure that they continue to represent the views of young people and that they continue to raise awareness of their key priorities.

8.4 Welwyn Hatfield 11-19 Group

Now boast a membership of over 40 different individuals from over 30 different organisations. The 11-19 group not only looks at operational activities that involve young people but it also works with new organisations who have something new or different to offer either the professionals themselves or the young people they are working with. One of the big successes in 2016 was the delivery of the 1st Year 9 Crucial Event which will be delivered again on the 14 March at the Fielder Centre, Hatfield. The event provides an opportunity for young people at schools locally to find out what their community can do for them and what they can actively get involved in as well as getting an understanding about what the next steps might be post schools.

8.5 Welwyn Hatfield Young Carers Projects

Throughout 2016/17 the Youth & Sport Partnership (Y&SP) officers had been actively working with each secondary school to ensure that they conform to the national Young Carers in Schools Programme. As an outcome, each school now has a Young Carers Lead staff member and the relevant support services in place within each school. Project FREEFALL is the next phase in ensuring these school support systems achieve maximum impact. The project will be delivered to raise awareness and inform the pupils about the support now available to young people both within and outside the school setting.

Project FREEFALL will be delivered into 5 of our secondary schools during the week of 6 – 10 March 2017. Freefall is a series of 50 minute plays (performances) delivered in in the schools throughout the week. The production highlights the issues, trials and difficulties facing young carers on a daily basis and aims to raise awareness both within the school teaching staff and also enable young carers to find out more about the support and help that is available to them from local organisations such as Herts Young Carers. This initiative has been funded by the Public Health grant awarded to the Youth Council as part of their "Unsaid" Mental Health Campaign.

Young Carers Away Day was held in August 2016, the Council received funding from the Saracens Sport Foundation/Community Access Fund this enabled WHBC Officers and members of the Welwyn Hatfield Youth Council to take a group of young carers on an away day to the Lee Valley White Water Rafting Centre Young Carers Away Day. A total of 16 young carers attended the day which was action packed with team building activities, raft building, and white water rafting. The young people had an amazing day and this initiative has enabled WHBC to establish better links with Young Carers themselves and understand more about the issues they face on a day to day basis.

8.6 Mental Health in Young People

The Y&SP officers have been actively working with Secondary Schools to provide resource, support and training for staff around supporting young people's Mental Health.

In February 2017 the second Mental Health First Aid Training for schools will be delivered to Secondary School teachers which totals over 30 school teachers mental Health First Aid trained through the funding of Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council.

Similar to the Young Carers in Schools programme, due to the successful work of the school partnership initiative, 2016 saw the roll out of the "Discover Counselling Programme in November 2016". This project was rolled out as a Pilot for year 1 and was again funded through the Public Health Grant awarded to the Youth Council "Unsaid" Mental Health Campaign.

DISCOVER was workshop programme delivered by Clinical Psychologists and was tailored to Monks Walk School Year 12 Students (identified as highly stressed) offering them tools and a counselling to teach them techniques of how to handle stress and worry. The programme consisted of a series of assemblies, workshops and then individual one-to-one programmes. The work is still ongoing. Results will be available at the end of March which will allow us to compare pre and post workshop results and analyse mental health and wellbeing outcomes as a result of the project.

The results of this programme will be available in March, however early indications show that around a third of the pupils enrolled on the programme would have met criteria for CAMHS.

8.7 National Playday

Overall an excellent day for the Borough. There were over 8,000 people in attendance, with over 40 different partners participating in providing a wide variety of activities and programmes. Every year the event grows and grows. 2016 saw the first year that the event was ticketed which in itself provided challenges but enabled us, as the event organisers, to better manage the site and those entering the site. The resource required to deliver such an event is huge and can never be underestimated. 2017 will require some re-thinking throughout the summer of 2017 about how and what is delivered..

8.8 Welwyn Hatfield Primary School Games

The Council continues to work with the local school's games partnership to deliver in partnership the local Primary School Games. The event was officially opened this year by the Mayor. The event sees around 350 young people take part in a range of sporting activities including indoor and outdoor sports as well as traditional track and field athletics. This year's event focused on the Rio Olympics. In 2017 it will be all about the Gold Coast Games as we look forward to the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

8.9 Welwyn Hatfield This Girl Can (3-13 October 2016)

The success of This Girl Can in Herts which was led by Herts Sports Partnership, saw an opportunity for the Council to build on this but at a more local level. Support for women and girls to become more active and try something new within Welwyn Hatfield had widespread support from local partners. The programme allowed us to work with a large range of local partners to raise the profile of sport for women and girls and highlight the vast range of opportunities that were available within the Borough.

Partners were invited to a Women and Girls Summit event in May 2016 where they networked and came together to hear about the concept. They were issued with support packs, partner activity forms and a range of promotional resources. Activities were promoted through our online interactive calendar which promoted over 126 different sessions featuring 52 different types of sports or physical activities.

During the 10 days programme, monitoring and feedback forms were recorded and a staggering 1800 + women and girls took part in physical activities throughout the week.

School participation, social media and good local media relations were key to the success of this programme. We were also fortunate to have had two sporting Team GB champion attend some of our sessions which really helped to inspire women and girls to participate.

8.10 Sir Frederic Osborn Section 106 Obligations

The funding was made available through the development at the school, this funding enabled investment to be made at Welwyn Rugby Club, Stanborough Netball Centre and Welwyn Garden City Football Club. Further developments and investment will be made in 2017 to the changing pavilion at King George V playing fields.

8.11 Hatfield Community Sport Fund

After several years of negotiation and partnership working, the original Section 106 agreement between the University of Hertfordshire, Herts County Council and the Borough Council, a deed of variation was signed. This meant that rather than replacement facilities being built at the Angerland Common site, a funding pot of £1.4Million was made available to the Hatfield community. The fund was launched in October and was split into three sections, Football Development, Rugby Development and Community Development.

The fund has some strict criteria to be met in order to gain funding and the Fund itself, whilst it is managed and organised by the Council, the decisions are made by an independent board which is chaired by the Herts Sports Partnership.

8.12 Welwyn Hatfield Sports and Physical Activity Alliance (WHSPAA)

This has been a challenging year with Dave Bartlett stepping down after several years as chairman. However, the sports alliance has continued to develop and re-launched it's website in October 2016. Whilst the Alliance itself does not deliver sporting opportunities, it encourages, enables and educates those clubs and organisations who do deliver sport and leisure to our community. The Council continues to support the alliance through managing and hosting its meetings and club forum events.

9 **Equality and Diversity**

- 9.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has not been carried out in relation to this report, as it is for information only.

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