

CHESTER AREA PARTNERSHIP BOARD

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2011-2012

DRAFT

The Community Engagement plan for Chester Area Partnership Board has been put together reflecting the aims from the Cheshire West and Chester Engagement and Empowerment Strategy. These are

- Keeping Communities Informed
- Consulting our Communities
- Providing Opportunities for People to be involved
- Collaborate &
- Support and Encourage Community Empowerment

1. KEEPING COMMUNITIES INFORMED					
	Our objective is to	To achieve this we will	Timescale & Lead Officer	Actions	Progress
1.1	Ensure that local residents feel that they are kept informed and have access to relevant information.	<p>Promote and encourage attendance at Community Forums.</p> <p>Promote Community Forums as a mechanism to address locally identified issues.</p> <p>Support the organisation of neighbourhood events for community engagement as appropriate.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Chester Area Team</p> <p>All</p>	<p>To agreed forum dates and locations with Cllrs on a planned annual basis.</p> <p>Alter CF boundaries to reflect local community issues</p> <p>To agree CF agendas with Cllrs with open forum element for residents to raise issues.</p> <p>Deliver well planned and organised Community Forums.</p>	<p>2011/2012 meetings set.</p> <p>Handbridge and Lache hold their own CFs from Sept 2011.</p> <p>All agreed</p> <p>Involvement in Blacon Summer and Winter Festivals, Lache Fun day , Older peoples events,</p>

		<p>Deliver our 4 year strategy and our Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP). This will include a road show style event that we see the Service engaging with residents across Chester regarding our proposals.</p> <p>Direct engagement through Home Safety Assessments', Driver Engagement Events, Station Open Days/Showcase events, attendance at community events, Key stage 2 delivery, Respect Programme, Princess Trust programme, Community Fire Protection Business inspections/liaison events.</p>	Fire and Rescue Service	<p>All relevant information goes on the Service Webpage's (www.cheshirefire.gov.uk) The use of social media (Facebook, Twitter). We utilise radio and produce press releases and key matters. Direct – Face to Face engagement with members of the community. We send an annual performance/information report to all homes in Chester. An annual report is also included as part of residents council tax bills. We publish adverts in various publications.</p>	Credit Union events in Handbridge etc.
1.2	Provide information to residents in an accessible and timely manner.	<p>Distribution of information on services and themes that support improvements in the quality of life of residents and the environment</p> <p>To respond to public call for meetings about specific local issues and to support ward councillors and partners in their role as community leaders</p>	<p>CAPB</p> <p>Chester Area Team</p>	<p>Build on and review CF mailing lists, including email contact lists for quick contact.</p> <p>Ensure materials for Community Forum materials go out 18 days prior to meetings.</p>	
1.3	Ensure that local people have access	To ensure that local residents are kept informed and have access to relevant	CAPB	Develop web based information that enables	

	<p>to information about their area</p>	<p>information, specifically about their area and that we have a good understanding of the views of our communities.</p> <p>We will provide relevant and appropriate information for people in the form of the stands at events, leaflets and APB updates.</p> <p>Produce specific geographic materials aimed at residents as appropriate.</p> <p>Ensure that community newsletters and websites are made use of to advertise projects and news.</p> <p>Develop a shared events diary that highlights all proposed community engagement and consultation.</p>	<p>CAPB</p> <p>CAPB</p> <p>CAPB</p> <p>CAPB</p>	<p>residents to be informed of what's happening in their local area. Make use of Community Forums</p> <p>Ensure area profiles and action plans that identify the key social, economic and environmental information and priorities for each area are available to local people.</p> <p>Regular updates in One Voice Blacon Newsletter, Lache FM, Newtown Newsletter being developed. Through Lache FM radio broadcast NHS shared diary to be reviewed by APB to agree that it is fit for purpose.</p>	<p>Available on CWaC & West Cheshire Together websites.</p>
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2. CONSULTING OUR COMMUNITIES

	Our objective is to	To achieve this we will	Timescale & Lead Officer	Actions	Progress
2.1	<p>Improve the way the council consults with its residents, businesses and local organisations.</p>	<p>Providing an opportunity for communities to have face to face contact with ward councillors, council services and partners</p> <p>Maintain and review Community Forum mailing lists.</p>	<p>Chester Area Team</p> <p>Chester Area Team</p>	<p>Community Forum meetings, Police CAM's, PSG walks resident meetings</p>	<p>On-going</p>

		Build relationships with local businesses through CAPB and through Community Forums.	CAPB	Explore the possibility of a Business Improvement District at Sealand Road	
2.2	Ensure we have a good understanding of the views and ideas of our communities on certain issues.	<p>Deliver a range of opportunities, community forums, public meetings and other events and activities that will enable people to engage with the council and our partners.</p> <p>Mapping and gapping exercise in Blacon and Lache on healthy provision. Conducted by the Community Health Workers.</p> <p>Community Research into behaviour change to encourage healthier lifestyles</p>	<p>CAPB</p> <p>WC-PCT</p>	<p>Project funded until April 2012 Explore further funding.</p> <p>Community Health Workers undertaking research.</p>	Research underway and results expected Dec 2011.
2.3	Develop mechanisms to communicate with local communities about specific geographical issues.	<p>Ensure Community Forums are active and cover the whole of Chester APB.</p> <p>Support Parish Councils to fulfil their role and reach quality status.</p> <p>Support TRAs, community groups and local partnerships in addressing local issues.</p>	<p>Chester Area Team</p> <p>CDHT</p>	<p>6 Community forums.</p> <p>Opportunity for special meetings around specific geographical issues e.g. Saughton Camp.</p> <p>Partnership themed groups in Lache and Blacon.</p>	
2.4	Work with partners and other stakeholders to avoid consultation duplication.	Greater involvement/join up between partners on community Meetings and Forums so more coordinated meetings.	CAPB, Chester Area Team		

3. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO BE INVOLVED					
	Our objective is to	To achieve this we will	Timescale & Lead Officer	Actions	Progress
3.1	Increase opportunities for local residents to be involved in and influence strategic decision making.	<p>Promote opportunities to get involved in strategic decision making through CFs and other mechanisms.</p> <p>Promote CAPB at Community Forums as a mechanism to progress local issues.</p> <p>Ensure Community representation on Chester strategic boards</p>	<p>CAPB</p> <p>Chester Area Team</p> <p>CAPB</p>	Neighbourhood Planning meeting in Huntington	Meetings taking place in Huntington and planned for Handbridge Community Forum
3.2	Ensure service users are involved in the design and delivery of services	<p>Explore opportunities for youth engagement and providing facilities and activities in neighbourhoods which meet children and young people's needs through partnership with local youth groups, uniformed services, public sector providers and others.</p> <p>Promote Chester Health Living Centre to other areas of Chester.</p>	<p>Connexions</p> <p>WC-PCT</p>	<p>Develop youth led groups with partner support in Lache Newtown and Hoole</p> <p>UKYP MP's provide a springboard for all young peoples views within the community</p> <p>Satellite geographic 'health' meetings across Chester</p>	
3.3	Encourage the development of Strong, sustainable and active communities	<p>Creation of new volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>Support the development of community groups, organisations and networks.</p>	<p>CAPB</p> <p>CAPB</p>	Through projects such as the Countess Country Park, Sustainable Blacon, LAPA Field Lache	
3.4	Provide Opportunities for local people to influence decision making and local	Continue work with partners, young people and vulnerable adults regarding fire and road safety.	Fire & Rescue service	Through: Road shows, One stop shops, Surveys, Focus group, Formal invitations to	

	service delivery	<p>Encourage use of Community Forums to address local issues</p> <p>Develop and secure funding to deliver Skills share in Chester and its roll out across the borough in the next 3 years</p>	<p>CAPB</p> <p>CVA</p>	<p>respond to our plans, All relevant information goes on the Service Webpage's (www.cheshirefire.gov.uk) The use of social media (Facebook, Twitter). Produce press releases and key matters. Direct – Face to Face engagement with members of the community. We send an annual performance/information report to all homes in Chester. An annual report is also included as part of residents council tax bills. We publish adverts in various publications.</p>	<p>e.g. waste management contract, planning, Integrated care centre</p>
3.5	Develop a culture that recognises and values community engagement and empowerment	Through Neighbourhood vision and action planning	CAPB	Pan Chester	

4.	COLLABORATE				
	Our objective is to	To achieve this we will	Timescale & Lead Officer	Actions	Progress
4.1	Support communities to achieve their potential through a strong and thriving third sector	<p>Increase opportunities for Third Sector organisations to engage at a local level.</p> <p>Support the embedding of the compact principles in all public sector policies and procedures by increasing buy in from Chester APB partners.</p>	<p>CVA</p> <p>CVA</p>	<p>Third sector representation on CAPB</p>	
4.2	Build stronger communities through stronger more effective government	<p>Promote Community Forums and Area Partnership Boards as the mechanism for community organisations to raise local issues</p> <p>Encourage the use of neighbourhood & parish plans as a mechanism for local people to identify local priorities</p> <p>Support the continued development of area wide community governance infrastructure</p>	<p>Chester Area Team</p> <p>Chester Area Team</p> <p>CAPB</p>	<p>Neighbourhood planning work to commence in Boughton</p> <p>Blacon Vision and Action plan to be refreshed with their 10 year vision.</p> <p>Lache Action plan to be developed</p>	<p>Report expected October 2011</p>
4.3	Work with partners to develop a coordinated approach to community	<p>Ensure use of the West Cheshire Together site for partners to share information about local consultation, events and news.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Monthly updates given from area team.</p>	

				Trust.	
5.4	Provide opportunities for local people to be involved in decisions about the use of local resources	Consult community on proposals affecting them through the Community Forum structure to enable a full discussion. Explore participatory budgeting as a way for members to allocate the members budget.	CWaC, CAPB	Continue informal participatory budgeting at Blacon Community Forum.	
5.5	Increase opportunities for local residents to be involved in the identification of local issues and priorities	Establish resident advisory panels links to existing partnerships and local councils in order to develop Neighbourhood Action Plans; these plans will identify key community needs and ways of addressing these specific to the locality		Blacon Vision and Action Plan newsletter expected October 2011. Handbridge to establish links to develop a Neighbourhood Action Plan	
5.6	Encourage the involvement of residents in the democratic process	Promote and inform communities about the process and opportunities for redress including petitions & councillor call for action.		Youth parliament groups engage with community Forum	
6	SERVICE DELIVERY / PROJECTS				
	Our objective is to	To achieve this we will	Timescale & Lead Officer	Actions	Progress
6.1	Encourage community empowerment to develop sustainable active communities	Support Lache Park Ltd in the development of LAPA field		Community consultation to be developed. Funding to be sourced (QE11 funding)	
		Hold community clean up events to encourage recycling		4 community clean up events planned in October	
		Support Lache Park Ltd in their Community Radio Broadcast		Broadcast to take place from 21 st November to 4 December	Licence approved
		Support the development of local community groups, organisations and networks			

		Support the development of community anchor organisations to encourage sustainable local communities			
	Health and Well being	Support Older peoples day Flu Fun Days		Activities planned to provide information and encourage involvement	
	Neighbourhood Planning	Support PC and local resident groups in the development of steering groups to lead on development of Neighbourhood plans			Meetings held in Huntington and to be scheduled for Handbridge
	Sustainability of community assets	Support Lache Community Centre HARA, Hoole Community Centre			
	Promote responsible lending	Work with Chester Credit Union to encourage responsible lending in areas of high door step lending.		Community events planned in Handbridge for October	

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