

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

**1. Tackling Smoking in Pregnancy**

The Public Health Team have been working closely with the South Tees CCG and have successfully secured £75k short term funding to address the high smoking at time of delivery (SATOD) rates in the area and build on existing action to tackle this public health challenge. While the SATOD rates in Middlesbrough have dropped by 5.8% in the last 5 years we remain outliers both regionally and nationally. Smoking in pregnancy increases the risk of miscarriages, still birth, premature delivery and low birth weight babies. Smoking in pregnancy also increases the likelihood of respiratory illness in early years and is also linked to behavioural problems in children. The funding will be used to purchase additional Carbon Monoxide monitors for Midwives, fund elements of the new 'My Little One' app and increase capacity to deliver intensive support for those pregnant smokers who struggle to quit smoking.

**2. Employment Network Group Partnership Engagement Event**

Public Health currently coordinate the Middlesbrough Employment Network Group (ENG) and hosted a partnership engagement event to look at the barriers to employment on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January, 2017. Over 60 people attended and the event included a range of speakers and workshops to explore what can be done to remove those barriers. The event also featured the launch of a campaign to address the myths some job seekers felt they experienced when seeking support into employment. This campaign will run throughout the year and it is hoped that this will have a long lasting impact and debunk some of the myths. Employment is an important determinant of health and good employment can contribute to better life.



### **3. Maternal, Infant and Child Health Strategic Partnership Key Achievements 2016**

The Maternal Infant and Child Health Strategic Partnership provides local leadership around the development, commissioning and delivery of programmes/services that impact on maternal, infant and child health outcomes in South Tees with membership from Middlesbrough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Council, South Tees CCG, South Tees Hospitals Foundation NHS Trust and local voluntary and community sector organisations. Since its inception in 2013 the partnership has continued to improve maternal, infant and child health outcomes focusing on the 0-5s and their families. Some key achievements in 2016 have been the following:

New mothers are now given priority referral for appointments with local psychological therapies services following birth for issues such as low mood and postnatal depression. In 2014 just one new mother received support from psychological therapies across Tees, in 2016 this figure is now at 280 new mothers (please note, this data is from one service provider only and the partnership is currently working to ensure other service providers also gather and report this data).

Breastfeeding welcome scheme was successfully launched in both Middlesbrough and Redcar. The scheme aims to increase visibility and the social acceptability of breastfeeding whilst also providing suitable public venues for mothers to breastfeed

18 PVI nurseries have achieved gold Food4Health awards, which means they are providing balanced diets for children that are in line with national nutritional guidelines

The percentage of mothers smoking at time of delivery has reduced since the implementation of Baby CLear, from 23% in 2014/15 to 19.8% in 2015/16.

A local campaign that focusses on raising awareness of the dangers of drinking alcohol during pregnancy was developed and implemented locally. Pregnant mothers are now also screened for alcohol use by their midwife during antenatal visits

The partnership has an action plan in place till 2018 and work is already underway in 2017 to develop an online maternal booking system for pregnant mothers that will provide access to better health support and also work to prevent childhood injuries.

### **4. Addressing Food Poverty**

There are increasing numbers of families accessing emergency assistance in Middlesbrough and given the success of the 2016 Lunch Club, the decision was taken to not only continue to provide food and activities during the school holidays for families, but to offer it to more venues. This will see an increase in the number of venues providing Lunch Club from 8 to 15 in 2017.

Lunch Club is a very simple model easily adapted to suit the venue and families – it provides a 2 hour free of charge session, where families are encouraged to become involved in a range of activities for the first hour (physical activity, themed crafts, cookery demonstrations, assisted reading, word and number quizzes) followed by the preparing of a buffet lunch which the families eat together.

A successful bid was made to the Financial Inclusion Group which will ensure that the 15 venues (both churches and schools) will be able to take part in the Lunch Club 2017. In addition, further bids have been submitted to the Physical Activity Grant

Fund and the Big Lottery to support the inclusion of additional activities and to allow more flexibility in terms of the number of days the venues can open for.

Parent and volunteers are critical to the success of the project and links have been made with Middlesbrough Community Learning who can provide any necessary training to upskill parents for employment and MVDA who will recruit older volunteers who may be feeling socially isolated and can support the implementation of the project.

#### **5. Middlesbrough Recovering Together (MRT):**

The MRT services were re-commissioned in 2016 with the new model launching last October. The Public Health team achieved its aim of making a £1m budget efficiency (per annum) whilst not having a significant impact on the capacity of frontline delivery. The new services were successfully mobilised and initial client feedback has been positive. Amongst the main changes to the model are the fact that it is now a fully integrated young person, adult and family service, ensuring that all clients can access the full range of interventions and support on offer; and the 'quasi-residential' scheme that enables clients to both live at Recovery Connections (formerly Hope NE) and take part in a structured recovery programme that has been proven to achieve sustainable outcomes and reduce re-presentations into treatment in other areas. The new arrangements should enable improved performance and a greater number of successful completions from treatment.

### **STRONGER FAMILIES**

#### **6. NEET (Not In Education Employment or Training) Event**

Stronger Families in partnership with Middlesbrough College held a NEET drop in, 'Restart Your Future', on Wednesday 11th January at the STEM Centre at Middlesbrough College. The event targeted young people who were NEET and all young people in Middlesbrough who were NEET were invited. Practitioners were available to offer impartial information, advice and guidance to young people.

Exhibitors included Middlesbrough College who offered a variety of courses, traineeships and apprenticeships along with other providers such as Pertemps and Learning Curve. Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) providers were also in attendance; Middlesbrough Community Learning, Princes Trust, Middlesbrough Football Club and Cleveland Fire Brigade offering one to one support, bespoke courses and progression to traineeships and apprenticeships.

The event attracted 110 visitors and of those 42 young people from Middlesbrough were offered or signed up to a course, those Middlesbrough young people who did not sign up for an opportunity will be followed up by Stronger Families to offer further support into Education, Employment or Training.

#### **7. 30 Hours Childcare Entitlement**

To prepare childcare providers in Middlesbrough for the new 30 hour childcare entitlement which is introduced nationally in September 2017, Hemsall's have delivered a number of 30 hours childcare entitlement briefing sessions for Primary Schools and the Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) Childcare Sector including childminders. The aims of the sessions were to help schools and settings to understand the national policy and the delivery models for the extended entitlement.

The briefings were also to help settings understand their business; understand the childcare market and the needs of their community and to understand the financial implications. 24 Primary Schools, 17 PVI and 13 childminders attended the briefing sessions and all provided a positive evaluation.

Middlesbrough have successfully been awarded two Early Years Capital Projects from the Department for Education for Green Lane Primary Academy and Park End Primary Schools to undertake building conversions in order to provide additional places for 3 and 4 year old children for the 30 hour entitlement from September 2017.

## 8. North Ormesby, Park End and Berwick Hills Children's Centres working with local families

### *Park End Children's Centre – Tea with Santa*

This event was supported via the Park End Parent Network, giving new experiences and the opportunity to meet and engage with other families. who over the year had organised and held events to raise funds towards this experience; families were able to make a small contribution towards attending, and this gave local families from Park End an opportunity to engage in a community event for the under 5's.



### *Park End Children's Centre – Santa Train Experience*

Again this event was partially funded via the Parent Network but also by the families contributing towards the cost of the experience; and gave local families an opportunity to visit Pickering Train Station, travel on a Steam Train and visit Santa. A total of 39 people attended this experience.



North Ormesby Children's Centre carried out a 'Christmas Arts & Crafts' session.

Berwick Hills Children's Centre held events supported over the year, via their Parents Network and were able to visit Whitehouse Farm in Morpeth. The Centre also had their visit from Santa during a play session.



### **9. Early Help Family Case Work Audit – Good**

Tees Valley Audit & Assurance Services (TVAAS) carried out an audit inspection of Stronger Families Family Casework in November/December 2016 and considers there to be a GOOD control environment. TVAAS acknowledged that the policy and performance monitoring data that was available was considered to be fit for purpose, the report went on to say that performance data, case audits and case monitoring are effective with procedures being adhered to.

### **10. Solihull Approach**

Early Help Family Casework has started to embed into its practice the Achieving Sustainable Change model of delivery which is a 'motivational interviewing' approach used to empower families to make and sustain positive change. To further support practice, practitioners are also completing Solihull Training which compliments the Achieving Sustainable Change model. The Solihull Approach is an evidence based model with a strong theoretical foundation based on three key concepts: containment, reciprocity and behaviour management. The Solihull Approach promotes emotional health and well being in children and families and supports practitioners to help parents to have a better understanding of their child and be able to respond to their child's needs.

Early Help Family Casework Team staff will also be working with a clinical psychologist, to build upon existing learning around the Achieving Sustainable Change and Solihull models of family work. A range of theoretical and practical skill based sessions are provided as well as intensive group case discussions and one-to-one clinical supervisions on individual cases. The initial sessions will be focused around child developmental stages, the tools that practitioners can use to gain the voice of the child and also how to analyse the information that is gathered during assessments.

### **11. Change, Grow, Live (GGL)**

CGL – Change, Grow, Live is Social Care and a Health Charity offering support to families to enable them to make changes in their lives to achieve positive and life-affirming goals. CGL treatment and care service is free and a confidential drug and alcohol service for adults and young people in Middlesbrough. CGL will be working in partnership with Stronger Families to offer support to achieve better outcomes for the

families across Middlesbrough. CGL will provide case support and discussion, joint home visits, training and practice skills where families present with substance misuse.

## **STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

### **12. Newport Hub**

Newport Hub hosted a clothing giveaway at the end of November 2016. The aim was to provide warm clothing to those in need. Over 30 families attended.

Friends of Newport Settlement hosted the annual pantomime. This year's spectacular was Cinderella. Over 100 people attended the show. The Hub is also working in partnership with Eden Place to host community workshops and a fun day. The events will take place in April and May 2017.

The Hub is working in partnership with local organisations and groups to host the 'Lunch box project'. Sessions will take place in February half term and the summer. The project aims to provide free meals to those who would normally have a free school meal provided.

### **13. North Ormesby Hub**

North Ormesby Hub has seen a high increase in the numbers of young people attending the youth sessions. This has developed through the joint partnership work with the Trinity Centre and Big Local.

English and literacy sessions are going really well following the introduction of a drop in ESOL Coffee morning at the hub. North Ormesby Primary School Head is keen to be involved as they have 14 different languages in the school.

All spaces at North Ormesby is now fully utilised. An office pod has been purchased by the 'Friends of' group for the library to house welfare rights, quit smoking etc. Funding has also been secured from the Financial Inclusion Group to fund a Welfare Rights Officer for 15 hours for the next year.

### **14. 'Opportunities for Everyone' Fund**

The 'Opportunities for Everyone' Fund is available to Libraries who involve innovative use of technology in working with disadvantaged communities.

A proposal has been submitted for a photographic digitisation project which would make local history resources from the Reference Library more accessible. Part of the project will involve local communities adding to the collection of photographs by taking images of what Middlesbrough means to them in 2017. This will involve working with a range of different community groups, and will be a project which everyone can become involved with. If we were to be successful, the funding would cover the purchase of digitisation equipment, community activity and different ways of displaying the images, in addition to a website. There is a lot of competition for the funding, which has seen the Arts Council receive over 100 applications from library services in the UK. Successful applications will be notified in March.

### **15. Books on Prescription for Young People – Funding Project from South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group**

The service received funding from South Tees CCG to pilot a self-help reading scheme aimed at young people in partnership with GP surgeries. The collections of books are also available in selected community hub libraries and have been issuing very well. From March 2016 – December 2016, there have been 193 issues of books from the collections.

### **16. Selective Licensing (North Ormesby)**

The North Ormesby Selective Licensing scheme continues to go from strength to strength and out of a total of 752 properties eligible to be licensed, 570 properties have already been registered with the scheme.

Multi-agency visits (Environmental Health, Stronger Families and Selective Licensing staff) have completed 246 property inspections and 55 referrals to Cleveland Fire Service since the scheme commenced. In addition our Environmental Health team have worked with landlords to improve the conditions for tenants in 33% of the properties included within the scheme.

The scheme is has also benefited local landlords and community members who are trying to tackle anti-social behaviour and create a stronger and safer community. In recent months a number of interventions have been applied by the Selective Licensing team resulting in the following:

- 20 landlords have worked with the dedicated Neighbourhood Safety officer within the team to tackle tenant-related ASB
- 2 landlords have served a Section 8 and Section 21 notice on problematic tenants

In addition, enforcement action has commenced against landlords outside of the scheme who have failed to comply with the legal requirements set out by the initiative.

### **17. Homeless Prevention Trailblazers**

Middlesbrough Council, working with partners across the Tees Valley, has recently successfully achieved funding for a Homeless Prevention Trailblazer project. The project will seek to reduce homelessness, increase employability outcomes and increase tenancy sustainment across the Tees Valley.

### **18. Hate Crime Training**

Together with Cleveland Police, Community Safety have delivered Hate Crime awareness sessions with marginalised and vulnerable members of our community within the HALO project. The group received information about extremism and radicalisation and how that can stem from being victims of Hate Crime especially where cases are not reported, therefore not investigated and no action taken. The group were given a range of reporting options and together with HALO staff, we will be translating the information into different languages.

### **19. Female Shoplifters Bid**

Community Safety have been working closely with the Troubled Families Team and HMP Holme House to apply to the Ministry of Justice for funding. The bid seeks to develop a role to work within troubled families with the second tier adult female offenders of retail crime addressing their complex and often chaotic underlying issues affecting their reoffending behaviours in a coordinated approach similar to the model adopted inside of prison.

## **20. Social Media Engagement**

We have now launched the MbroPrevent Twitter account to promote the positive work the operational group does and to promote the safeguarding nature of PREVENT agenda. The twitter account also retweets useful information about online safety and other issues relating to radicalisation from a diverse range of credible sources including Let's Talk About it, Tell Mamma, CST, The Free initiative and HM Government counter terrorism units including the Counter Terrorism Internet Referral Unit

## **21. Brambles Farm Hotel**

Neighbourhood Safety have been working alongside Environmental Health, Police and Cleveland Fire Brigade to ensure the new owners of the building fully secured the property following extensive damage by local youths. A Dispersal Order was put in place and 12 warnings have been issued to those identified. The Neighbourhood Safety Officer has visits planned to all perpetrators along with the Restorative Justice Worker to engage the young people in the RJ process. The building has since been fully secured with metal shutters and no further complaints have been received.

## **22. Integrated Enforcement**

Street Wardens are working alongside the Princes Trust within the Newport Ward, to engage with young people aged between 14-16years old. The individuals targeted are at risk of significantly underachieving due to extremely poor school attendance and ASB involvement. Wardens are providing sessions alongside the Neighbourhood Safety Officer to address their behaviour.

A known ASB perpetrator was identified by CCTV operatives in a fight within the Town centre. The camera's picked up that he was carrying a knife therefore the Police were contacted immediately. The individual was quickly arrested.

CCTV operators noticed an individual accessing a town centre store during the night. Police were called and the individual was captured at the rear of the store and arrested for burglary.

The service has received two recent compliments from members of the public regarding Parking Enforcement Officers who have gone above their role to assist members of the Public. One officer came across a broken down vehicle within the town centre occupied by a female with a young child. The officer provided assistance and assurance by staying with the female until the vehicle was recovered.

## **23. Middlesbrough Environment City - One Planet Pioneers Project Update**

One Planet Pioneers is one of 31 projects currently on offer to young people across the UK as part of the Our Bright Future Programme, funded through the Big Lottery Fund. It is a partnership between Middlesbrough Environment City (MEC), Tees Valley Wildlife Trust (TVWT) and Actes Trust. The project offers young people aged 14-21yrs a wide range of volunteering and apprenticeship opportunities specifically around nature conservation, environmental sustainability and horticulture, to improve their life chances and employability.

To date eight apprentices have been employed on the programme and over 250 young people have taken part as volunteers. They have had the opportunity to be involved in a range of activities including woodland and wetland management tasks in the beck valleys and at Maze Park nature reserve. Project staff have also been engaging young people



with local Friends groups, opening up opportunities for volunteers to build insect habitat homes at Linthorpe Cemetery, maintaining a local community woodland and planting in a local pond.

Regular outdoor activities are also being delivered to pupils from local secondary schools. Young people are encouraged to discover a local green space, explore it, do something to conserve it and share their experience. The four days of activity enables them to achieve the nationally recognised John Muir 'Discovery' Award, which can assist with building their portfolios of experience in preparation for future careers.

Not everything the young people are involved in entails getting their hands dirty; an important part of the project is to help young people have an active voice in public debate. Actes Trust is managing the One Planet Pioneers Youth Panel. Currently run on a fortnightly basis, the Youth Panel is for young people in the local area to come together and have their say about their community, identify the areas which they feel need to be improved and tackle these issues. Panel members are learning new skills and gaining campaigning knowledge while meeting new people and gaining valuable experience for their future.

More information can be obtained from Nicky Morgan at Middlesbrough Environment City: [nicky.morgan@mencity.org.uk](mailto:nicky.morgan@mencity.org.uk) .

