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Annual Report 2014/2015

*‘Listening, planning,
acting, in partnership’*



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1. Introduction and key achievements 2014 / 2015



As Chair of Hertsmere Together, our local strategic partnership, I am pleased to introduce the Annual Report for 2014/15 which illustrates some of the excellent work and new initiatives delivered in partnership in Hertsmere.

Many of the important issues we face, such as crime and disorder, healthy lifestyles and deprivation are problems that cannot be tackled fully by one single organisation. Hertsmere Together continues to be a well-supported and motivated partnership focussed on working together to identify solutions and initiatives to address local issues.

The Community Strategy, launched in March 2013, sets out the vision and objectives of Hertsmere Together. This Annual Report looks back at some of the key successes in delivering against the three key priorities of healthier, safer and thriving communities. It also looks to the future of partnership working and some key projects which will continue to help shape a better future for the communities of Hertsmere.

Councillor Morris Bright
Chairman, Hertsmere Together

Hertsmere Together's vision



We will work together with communities to identify solutions and initiatives to address local issues.

Healthier Communities

Health and wellbeing affects each and every one of us. The Health and Wellbeing Partnership, over the past year, has been working towards making health and wellbeing everyone's business, reducing health inequalities and tackling issues at different stages of people's lives.

What are our priorities?

- To promote healthy weight and increase physical activity
- To improve mental health and emotional wellbeing
- To create a healthy culture across all services, all communities and all workplaces

Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The first Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Hertsmere was launched in 2015 to provide the evidence base and joint vision for how we can continue to work together to improve the health of the community. This was endorsed by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and the Health and Wellbeing Partnership.

During 2014–2015 Hertsmere Borough Council received £100,000 public health funding from Hertfordshire County Council to deliver projects based on the strategic aims in our strategy and contribute to public health outcomes. This enabled a number of projects to be funded and a small grants programme to run.

Public Health Fund Projects and Funding Healthier Hertsmere	
Project	Total Funding Allocated
Healthy and Active Lifestyles – Activities	£20,000
Falls Prevention	£2,800
Family Cooking and Exercise	£10,000
Gym Equipment match funding	£10,000
Healthy Body, Health Mind/Meet and Move	£12,035
Older People Living Well	£20,000
ParkRuns	£3,000
Parks & Healthy Lifestyles App	£7,000
Public Health Grants	£17,000
Therma-Hydrometers	£4,000
Using our Open Spaces	£10,000.
Total	£115,835

Public Health Grants 2014/2015 Funding Breakdown

Project	Funding Allocated
Community Learning Partnership (CLP)	£750
Groundwork	£3,000
Community Action Hertsmere (CAH)	£3,000
NYSA	£3,000
Saffron Green	£800
Give Your Town The Run Around	£3,000
Mencap	£300
Total	£13,850

Our Public Health aims in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy are:

- Increase physical activity and healthy eating
- Improve mental health and wellbeing
- Reduce alcohol and drug-related harm
- Increase numbers of people giving up smoking
- Reduce hip fractures and excess winter deaths

What did we do?

Smoking cessation

Part of Hertsmere's Health and Wellbeing Strategy is to continue increasing the numbers of people giving up smoking. To achieve this, the council held training and promoted national health campaigns including:

- Stoptober – A 28 day mass quit attempt based on the fact that after 28 days without a cigarette, smokers are five times more likely to give up smoking for good.
- Smokefree health harms – A project designed to increase awareness of the harms of roll ups and the toxic chemicals used in cigarettes.



- No smoking day – A one day quit attempt, run by the British Heart Foundation, which highlights the advantages of not smoking and increases awareness of support available.
- Brief intervention training – The training gave participants the tools necessary to discuss smoking cessation with smokers in a positive, non-confrontational way to encourage smokers to think about giving up and enable them to access specialist support when they are ready.

Healthier Hertsmere Activities

After consultation to find out what activities residents were interested in trying, the council worked with local clubs to introduce people to new sports and get people moving. The activities were free to try and open to all those who live, work and visit Hertsmere. The sessions included; tennis in Potters Bar, which ran from February to April and kickboxing in Borehamwood which ran from March to May.



Groundwork Wild Play Scheme

Groundwork Hertfordshire ran a four day play scheme working with 16 different families including 30 children aged two to eight years old. The play scheme ran at Meryfield Primary School in Borehamwood and was aimed at children aged four to eight and their parents/carers.

The families took part in a variety of outdoor physical activities including: going on themed walks and collecting natural material to make potions, looking for birds and hunting for mini-beasts, parachute games, making mini dens and creating flags.



The aim of the programme was to help parents and children develop skills and confidence to play actively outdoors through no cost or low cost activities in local green spaces. The programme was well received and 83% of the parents said that they were more confident to play outdoors with their children and noticed a positive change.

Feedback from parents:

"It has given us both something to do together that was fun, interesting, close to home, engaging and free!"



Food Banks

The LSP has provided financial support and helped develop food banks in Borehamwood and Potters Bar, which opened in March 2013 and September 2013 respectively. Both food banks offer support and three days of emergency food to those who are in crisis.



The food is donated from individuals, churches, synagogues, local businesses, the council and community groups. Tesco continues to support the food bank and allows four collections a year and they have a permanent collection box at their checkouts. To date, a total of 4,386 people have received food from the two food banks.

Live Well

The 'Live Well' project offers practical, flexible assistance to 'older' people to help them remain independent, gain confidence and new skills, build social networks and identify their own solutions to living well. The project began in October 2013 and ran for 18 months.

Community Action Hertsmere (CAH) has been delivering the Live Well project, which is funded by People's Health Trust and the Health and Wellbeing Group. During 2014-2015 more than 150 people have engaged with the project in various activities, including:

- 51 weekly Coffee Cakes and Time to Talk sessions
- Eight Grandparents' Networking sessions
- One First Aid training session
- One Nutrition and Wellbeing session
- 11 Key Speaker sessions
- 11 Arts & Craft sessions
- Nine indoor Tennis sessions
- Seven indoor Games sessions
- 12 Love to Dance sessions
- 48 Fella's Fitness sessions
- Five Golden Burlesque sessions

"Older people will feel more confident and have improved social networks within the community"

During the beginning of the project CAH promoted and spent time helping people access the events and activities. The feedback has been extremely positive from participants who are stating how much better they feel, they have made new friendships and feel more positive.

42% said they strongly agreed that they felt more confident, 36% said they agreed, 17% neither agreed nor disagreed and 5% disagreed. They were asked if they felt they had more friends, 59% strongly agreed, 30% agreed, 11% neither agreed nor disagreed.

“Older people will feel less isolated by being more active within the community increasing their independence”

The project has set up a wide variety of ‘things to do’ based on the feedback from participants. CAH have spent time talking to participants and bringing in a wide range of activities and events to meet the different needs.

53% strongly agreed they felt less isolated, 30% agreed and 18% neither agreed nor disagreed. CAH also asked if they felt more involved in the local community since starting the Live Well project, 48% strongly agreed, 47% agreed and 5% neither agreed nor disagreed.

“Participants will have improved skills by taking part in training, awareness sessions, and volunteering opportunities”

The project has organised many activities around improving skills, awareness sessions and volunteering opportunities. CAH has worked with many of our partners to come to sessions to talk about and raise awareness of their provision and services.

When asked if they felt they had learned more about local services, 53% strongly agreed, 18% agreed, 11% neither agreed nor disagreed and 12% disagreed.

When asked if they would think about looking into volunteering, 30% strongly agreed, 24% agreed, 24% neither agreed nor disagreed and 24% disagreed.

Love to Dance

The Love to Dance weekly sessions for older adults, focus on different styles of dance and are led by an inspirational, experienced and well qualified teacher. Classes are informal, friendly and fun with plenty of time to get active and meet new people.

Sessions are held at Farriers Community Centre between 10.00am and 11.30am on Fridays. In January, new members were offered two free classes and then £4 per class after that.





‘Number 10’ Health and Wellbeing Centre

‘Number 10’ is run by Guideposts Trust and Herts Mind Network. It aims to empower people with mental health or substance misuse issues, giving them the opportunity to develop their skills, build self-confidence and move forward into training, further their education or get into paid employment.

During 2014–2015, 188 people were referred to Herts Mind Network and 86 had initial appointments, which is a one-to-one session for new clients.

Throughout the year more than 15 different types of sessions were held, with more than 100 clients attending.

The new Finance Service was funded by Comic Relief and they have been able to provide additional activities such as community events and becoming a registered Food Bank voucher provider.

A client that accessed the Vocational Advice sessions

“I would like to say that I feel extremely happy with the Vocational Advice service I have received. When I first came I felt lost, very confused, stressed and scared of losing my job. Straight after my first session I walked out of the office feeling that finally I was being listened to and there was someone who understood what I was going through”.

We Move, She Moves

Hertsmere Borough Council has received funding for a three year women and girls project from Sport England. This funding has enabled the council to develop activities in consultation with local people, with the aim to get more people taking part in sports activities.

Since the project started in 2014, more than 1,000 women and girls have taken part in the activities across Hertsmere. These activities were free or at minimal cost.

Satellite Club programme

Satellite clubs are extensions of sports clubs on a school site. This is a three year funded programme from Sport England as part of the Olympic legacy. This year a number of satellite clubs have continued or been set up in Hertsmere including:

- Zenith Trampolining club with Yavneh College, Borehamwood
- Saracens Cheerleading with Dame Alice Owens School, Potters Bar
- Watford Freestyle Kickboxing with Falconer School in Bushey

Arsenal

Throughout the year Arsenal has delivered a number of programmes in the borough, including:

- Double club – an innovative football and literacy programme for those aged between nine to 11 years old, which consists of 45 minutes of football and 45 minutes of literacy, which takes place in schools across the borough for one school term (approximately 12 weeks).
- The diversionary strand of the programme focused on two schools, Falconer School in Bushey and The Park Education Support Centre in Potters Bar. Students from The Park undertook Sports Leaders' training and went into Cranborne School in Potters Bar and delivered lunchtime sessions to the pupils. Currently Arsenal is working in Falconer School in Bushey delivering football, literacy and the Sports Leaders' training with the students.
- Arsenal Ladies also deliver programmes in Hertsmere and have developed initiatives for primary and secondary pupils. As part of the programme an Arsenal Ladies coach goes into primary schools on a Friday afternoon and delivers curriculum coaching and an after school girls' football club. The coach is accompanied by two students who are on a gap year programme with the community department. This opportunity has been offered to all primary schools in Hertsmere and take up has been extremely positive and there is currently a waiting list. Feedback from the programme has been really positive. This financial year the programme has engaged with 325 individual young people with 1,782 visits to the programmes.

Older People's Day 2014

Older People's Day is held on 1st October every year to coincide with the UN International Day of Older Persons. The main aim for the day is to be a celebration of the achievements and contributions that older people make to our society and the economy.

Older People's Day supports the campaign to challenge negative attitudes and outdated stereotypes.

The celebrations and activities also promote healthy lifestyles, give opportunities to combat loneliness, encourage volunteering and sharing skills with different generations.

For the 2014 Older People's Day, residents of Hertsmere had the opportunity to attend a 'tea dance' which was hosted by London's number one ballroom dance music presenter 'Mr Wonderful'. He was joined by his partner Janet Cunningham-Clayton, a former senior British ballroom champion.

The tea dance was offered free of charge and more than 40 residents aged over 60 took part.



Safer Communities

The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) over the last year has been working toward creating a safer environment for Hertsmere residents, businesses and visitors. By working in partnership and with our communities to identify local solutions to address local issues we can continue to make Hertsmere safer.

Hertfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd, allocated the CSP a total of £24,898 to contribute to the partnership, for delivering community safety initiatives across the borough.

Community Safety Grant Allocation	
Financial Year	Total
2010/2011	£85,784
2011/2012	£58,976
2012/2013	£29,836
2013/2014	£27,898
2014/2015	£24,898
2015/2016	£24,898

What are our priorities?

- To create safer environments by tackling crime (particularly residential burglary and vehicle crime), anti-social behaviour and alcohol-related disorder
- To improve lives by reducing harm caused to communities by drugs
- To reduce offending and manage offender behaviour
- To build community confidence and increase feelings of safety

What did we do?

Local CSP meetings

Residents from across the borough have the opportunity to attend local CSP meetings in their area to discuss anti-social behaviour, local crime figures, fire safety, community safety initiatives and raise issues of concern. The meetings are held four times a year and are attended by councillors and representatives from the council, police and fire service, housing associations, local businesses and residents.

Coffee Ethic

Coffee Ethic is a social enterprise and is part of the Druglink family that aims to support people recovering from drug and alcohol addiction to re-integrate into work and society.

The project has been delivered with funding and support from the LSP, CSP, Hertsmere Community Grants, the Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Fund and the lottery's Awards for All.

The coffee cart was officially opened on 22 October 2014 and serves around 40 hot drinks a day to staff and visitors of the Civic Offices. Since opening 19 volunteers have worked behind the cart, six of those have now moved on as they have paid employment and four have moved on as they are now in full time education and training.



Domestic Abuse

More than 160 professionals and members of the voluntary sector gathered at Hertsmere Borough Council in March 2015 for a conference. The event was hosted by the Welwyn Hatfield, St Albans and Hertsmere Domestic Violence Forum and included sessions on the impact of violence on the brains of babies and older children, the role of the play worker with children in women's refuges, the work of Children's Services and Children's Centres on domestic abuse and the work of Operation Halo on child sexual exploitation.

Prison Me! No Way!

In June 2014, 90 young people took part in a crime prevention and safety day arranged by the CSP in conjunction with the Prison Me! No Way Trust. The young people were treated as prisoners for the day and received talks about drugs, arson and online safety. They saw a real-life prison cell, took part in a street scene and heard from a prisoner serving a life sentence for murder. This day was aimed at young people who have been or are likely to become involved in anti-social behaviour (ASB) to serve as a deterrent, showing young people the potential consequences of their behaviour.



Quote from a young person that attended the day

"I liked it when Tony (a prisoner who was serving a life sentence) talked to us because I really understood how bad the prison is and what things I shouldn't do."



Safer School Parking

The CSP has been working with schools across the borough to deter parents from stopping and parking dangerously and illegally outside their child's school. Officers from Hertfordshire Constabulary attended the schools to deliver safety talks to the children and banners were put up outside the schools to remind parents. During 2014/2015, seven schools benefitted from the scheme.

Safer Streets

The multi-agency Safer Streets project, funded by the LSP, has been running since 2011. The scheme was devised to improve community safety and people's quality of life. Teams of officers from organisations visit vulnerable households to talk about how local services can help them. Services that are offered include:

- Free crime prevention advice
- Free smoke detectors – plus free fitting
- Free first aid courses
- Help on leading a healthier life style
- Support for quitting smoking
- Information on how to become more involved in the local community

Since the launch of the project more than 1,900 households have been visited. Since April 2014, 327 households have been offered free services and 43 have had home fire safety checks done, 35 have had crime prevention advice, 56 have attended a first aid course, 64 have joined the NHW scheme and 30 residents have asked for more information about getting involved in their local community.



Community Engagement events

Local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) arrange community engagements at local supermarkets, shops and care homes to offer crime prevention information, advice and freebies to local residents.

Watches

Across the borough, residents have been encouraged to sign up to Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) – for households, Allotment Watch – for those who have allotments and Dog Watch – for dog walkers. All watches encourage members to look out for suspicious behaviour and report it to the police.



Area	Number of roads	Number of roads covered with NHW
Borehamwood and Elstree	384	286
Potters Bar, Ridge, Shenley and South Mimms	318	242
Aldenham and Bushey	445	321

Commute Aware

This initiative gives community safety advice to those residents leaving the borough via Potters Bar and Elstree and Borehamwood train stations. So far 400 CSP branded travel card holders have been distributed to commuters, by PCSOs, as they enter the train station on their daily commute. The travel card gives key messages such as: ensuring vehicles are locked, windows and doors at home are suitably secured before being left, securing garden tools, and basic awareness on how to keep personal belongings safe.



Thriving Communities

Over the past year we have been more innovative in our approach to working with the community to increase volunteering, provide advice and guidance and ensure people have a good living environment.

What are our priorities?

- To provide accessible opportunities to skills development and financial advice
- To increase community involvement and cohesion so people feel empowered and that they belong
- To enable people to take part in decision-making processes, increasing pride in communities and assisting ideas to thrive
- To support the development of volunteering, social enterprise and business opportunities

What have we done?

Community Chest

The Community Chest provides small grants of up to £300 to community and voluntary organisations in Hertsmere for small purchases or activities. Community Action Hertsmere (CAH) manages the Chest on behalf of the LSP.



In 2014/2015 several organisations benefitted from the support of the Community Chest. To date £3,770 has been allocated to organisations in the borough.

Organisation	Funding awarded	Overview of project
HomeStart	£300 £200 £120	Pottery sessions at Pottery and Clay First aid training for volunteers Christmas team building event for volunteers
Muslim Community Centre	£300	Two annual functions and a contribution towards rent and support classes for children
Fishers Field Local Nature Reserve	£200	Contribution towards the supply and installation of two beehives and bee friendly shrubs and flowers
Hertsmere Play Association	£300	Contribution towards the Public Liability Insurance
Potters Bar Carnival	£300	Contribution towards the bands for the procession and performances in the arena
Baker Street Club	£300	To buy new board games, printing costs, small token prizes and a trip for the members

Organisation	Funding awarded	Overview of project
Herts Inclusive Theatre (HIT)	£300	Contribution towards costumes for a modern production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, performed by 12-19 year olds
	£300	Contribution towards costumes and props for the production of Alice in Wonderland
Tickled Pink	£300	Contribution towards music and arts for an older persons group at the Ark Theatre
Hertsmere Play Rangers	£250	Christmas activities
CAH	£300	Contribution towards half term activities for families with complex needs
Shizentai Judo Club	£300	Contribution towards competition medals and hall hire for an event

My Incubator

Hertsmere residents will now be able to access professional business advice online thanks to a new business support service.



The council has partnered with My Incubator Ventures (MIV) to offer local residents access to a live chat portal free of charge.

From start-up advice to support for an existing small business, MIV's experienced and professional mentors will be on hand to help

The MIV website also contains a wealth of business information including useful articles and templates which can be downloaded. MIV users can also keep up-to-date with the latest news and events happening in the small business world.

In December 2014, MIV won the 'Future of Enterprise Support' award at the National Enterprise Network awards, an award that recognises 'exceptional innovation' in the enterprise industry.

Access to the MIV live chat service is via our website. In order to speak to a mentor, residents should visit www.hertsmere.gov.uk/MIV to verify that they are a Hertsmere resident

Have a go day

Bricklaying, cupcake decorating and milking an artificial cow were among the eclectic array of skills and activities laid on for visitors to try at an event staged in Borehamwood in early May.

The 'Have a Go' Day, hosted jointly by Oaklands College and the council, was held at the community hub at 96 Shenley Road.





Hertsmere Connect

Hertsmere Connect was launched at the end of 2013 as a partnership between Hertsmere Borough Council and Watford and West Herts Chamber of Commerce to attract, connect and support businesses in Hertsmere.

Hertsmere Connect aims to improve prosperity for businesses in Hertsmere by:

- Encouraging relationships and generating greater engagement between local businesses by creating a strong business network
- Supporting the retention and growth of business
- Attracting and supporting new businesses relocating to Hertsmere
- Making Hertsmere a more business-friendly place to do business

Over the past year Hertsmere Connect has:

- Set up three business leaders' forums for Hertsmere based businesses to represent the views of Hertsmere's larger businesses, its Smaller and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and businesses in the Creative Industries. The aims of the forums are to better understand the issues and challenges of doing business in Hertsmere, with the aim of making Hertsmere a 'better place to do business'
- Provided a business voice for Hertsmere businesses with the council, Herts Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), Hertfordshire County Council and other organisations and industry bodies
- Organised more than 12 seminars, consultations and networking events
- Run two public sector procurement seminars, raising awareness amongst small and medium business of the opportunities to supply Hertsmere Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council
- Run two fully-funded three-day training courses for Herts-based small and medium enterprises, in partnership with Exemplas, co-funded by the European Social Fund and Skills Funding Agency. The courses 'Coaching to be a better manager' were attended by 20 people, 12 of which were from Hertsmere-based businesses
- Engaged with more than 4,000 businesses and chamber members through mailshots, calls, and meetings making them aware of Hertsmere Connect and of grants, finance, training and business-support schemes available to them from a wide range of organisations including: Wentra, Herts Growth Hub, Exemplas, GrowthAccelerator, Employers Ownership Fund, European Social Fund, Skills Funding Agency, the Tech Partnership Training Fund, the British Film Institute (BFI) and Creative Skillset
- Provided advice and support to more than 13 start-ups
- Provided advice and support to 13 businesses trying to relocate to Hertsmere.
- Engaged with businesses through social media:
 - 1,280 Website Visitors
 - 383 Twitter Followers
- Raised awareness of Hertsmere Connect with 40,000 households via Hertsmere News with details of business support services available to businesses and to individuals wishing to start-up in business in Hertsmere

Hertsmere Homes

To help meet the demand for accommodation in the borough, four three-bedroom terraced houses have been built in Grove Road, Borehamwood.

The council commissioned BTS Building and Technical Services, a trading arm of Luton Borough Council, to build the houses through the innovative programme of developing homes to make the most of capital assets and help address the shortage of homes in Hertsmere. The Grove Road houses have been built on council land that had been derelict so the development also helps improve the area.

As previously reported, the row of houses has been part funded by the profit from the sale of a redeveloped home in Bushey, also on council land.

The houses have been handed over to the council and allocated by the housing team.



Girl Power

62 girls took part in three free female-only projects aimed at building confidence and inspiring young females to succeed through dance, fitness, fashion and beauty.

Annual Youth Conference

Nearly 80 pupils from five schools across Hertsmere attended the council's eighth Annual Youth Conference in Borehamwood in March 2015, and had a unique and highly creative opportunity to find out more about local democracy and quiz some local councillors.

The pupils, all aged between 10 and 13, took part in an interactive quiz and show 'I'm in a democracy, get me out of here' performed by FLIP Theatre Workshop Ltd and had the chance to meet and quiz borough councillors about their policies and principles during a 'speed dating' style event, before voting for their favourite.

During the afternoon, participants learned more about local democracy and outlined how they would encourage other young people to vote.



2. Membership

LSP members have the authority to speak on behalf of their individual organisation and to commit resources in principle to achieve the work set out in the Community Strategy

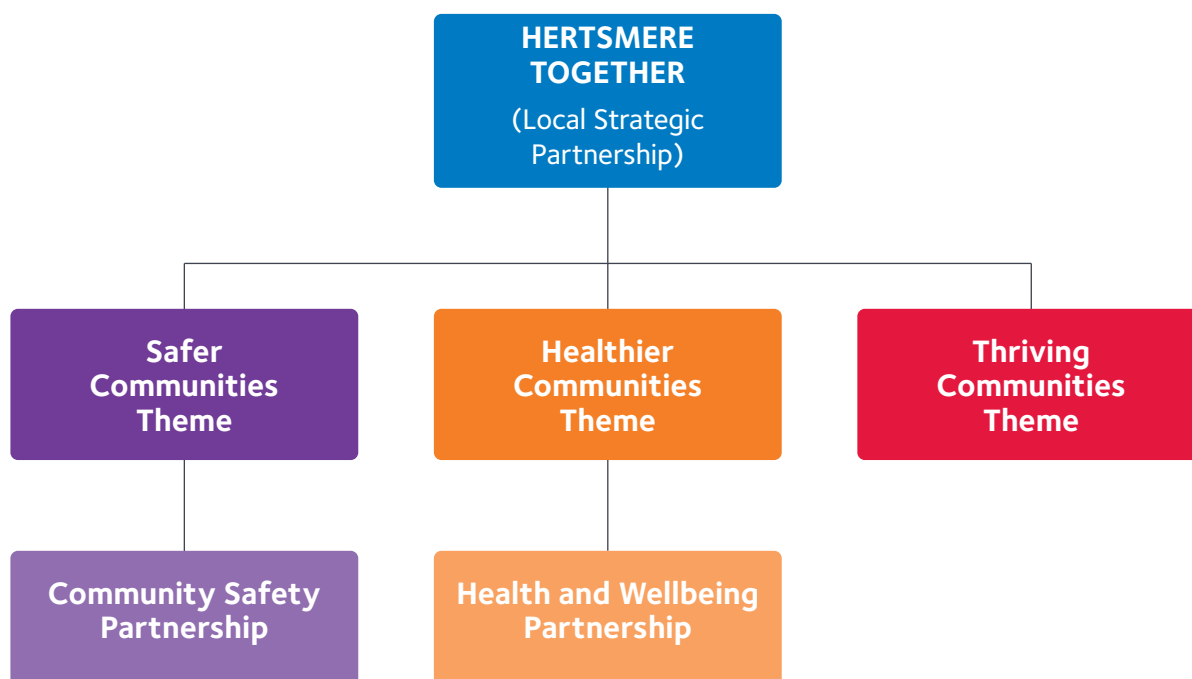
At the LSP meeting in March 2015 it was recommended that the Community Safety Partnership's Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) meetings cease and matters arising are brought to the Local Strategic Partnership instead.

This proposal was mooted on the basis that the responsible authorities attend both meetings and there has been duplication of content of meetings – for example reporting performance by the Constabulary and the fire service, and various presentations on matters such as the Prevent Strategy and Child Sexual Exploitation at both meetings.

The proposal would eliminate duplication, reduce the time taken up by meetings and allows the agencies with representation at both the Responsible Authorities Group and the Local Strategic Partnership to delegate this role to one person or to nominate a substitute more easily.

This proposal was agreed by the board.

Hertsmere Together structure



The membership as agreed for 2015 is:

Name	Organisation	Representing
Cllr Morris Bright	Hertsmere Borough Council	Chairman of LSP
Dr Donald Graham	Hertsmere Borough Council	Hertsmere Borough Council
Cllr Brenda Batten	Hertsmere Borough Council	Children and Young People/Health and Wellbeing
Cllr Seamus Quilty	Hertsmere Borough Council	Economic Development and Prosperity
Cllr Pervez Choudhury	Hertsmere Borough Council	Community Safety Partnership (CSP)
Jeremy Green	WENTA	WENTA and Private Sector
Chris Wood	Citizen Advice Bureau (CAB)	CAB
Sue Pearlman	Community Action Hertsmere (CAH)	CAH and Voluntary Sector/ Empowerment and Engagement
Scott Black	Aldwyck Housing Association	Registered Social Landlords
Ian Pluck	Hertsmere Leisure	Leisure providers
Chief Inspector Tannis Perks	Hertfordshire Constabulary	Hertfordshire Constabulary
Cllr Teresa Heritage	Hertfordshire County Council	Hertfordshire County Council
Revd Canon Richard Leslie	Forum of Faiths	Forum of Faiths (Chair)
Sean Scully	Oaklands College	Further Education
Dr Catherine Page	Hertsmere Commissioning Ltd	Hertsmere Commissioning Ltd
Earl Dutton	Hertfordshire County Council	Hertfordshire County Council
Rob Day	Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service	Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service
Concetta Kyriacou	Department for Working Pension (DWP)	Department for Working Pension (DWP)
Peter Evans	Aldenham Parish Council	Parish and Town Councils
Sally Leng	BeNCH (Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire)	BeNCH
Sandra Bracher	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)	OPCC

There are 21 board members in total

3. Performance Reward Grant

In 2010 Hertsmere LSP was awarded the Performance Reward Grant (PRG) totalling £511,187.17 as a result of the Local Area Agreement award to Hertfordshire.

A co-ordinating group, made up of the Chairs from each theme group, was set up to receive all of the applications for PRG funding. The co-ordinating group was responsible for shortlisting the bids, which were then presented to the LSP board. The board members made the decisions on the projects that received the PRG funding.

Each project was reviewed by the co-ordinating group, with its progress being presented at the board meetings and through the annual reports.

This funding has now been fully allocated and there is no further finding available at present.

The following projects were funded by the PRG funding:

Active Environment – Hertsmere Borough Council

This project enabled an outdoor gym to be installed at Oakmere Park. The three fitness ‘stations’ combine seven pieces of apparatuses – a sit-up bench, a power bike, two free runners, a cross trainer, an upper body trainer and a body flexer. These are designed for users aged 15 or above.

Total PRG allocated and spent £12,000

Coffee Ethic – Drug Link

The coffee cart was jointly funded by the PRG, Community Safety Partnership (CSP), Hertsmere Community Grants, the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Community Fund and the Lottery’s Awards for All.

Total PRG allocated and spent £6,187.50

Community Chest – Community Action Hertsmere (CAH)

This fund is available for small groups across the borough to help them purchase equipment, training, or essentials to support the services and activities they provide.

Total PRG allocated £10,000 with a balance of £7,080 remaining. The remaining funding will allow more small groups to apply for funding over the coming years.

Community Safety and Children and Young People Theme Groups

Each of the theme groups was allocated £10,000 to spend on initiatives and projects that address the aims in the community strategy. Projects that were funded included the Prison Me! No Way! safety day and mentoring projects for young people.

Total PRG allocated £20,000 and spent £19,435

Financial Literacy Project – Citizens Advice Bureau

The financial literacy work was proactive and preventative. It gave people the skills, knowledge and confidence to make the financial choices that are right for them and help them avoid crisis during the recession.

Total PRG allocated and spent £25,000

Food Bank – Forum of Faiths / Elstree & Borehamwood Christian Council

This funding supported the establishment of the food bank in association with the Trussell Trust, which provides training, organisation and provision of local food banks. The food bank provides three days of food for those who are eligible. This followed a feasibility study undertaken by the LSP.

Total PRG allocated and spent £3,500

Health Inequalities – Health and Wellbeing Theme Group

Funding was allocated to the Health and Wellbeing theme group to match fund the NHS grant, to spend on initiatives that address the community strategy aims. Projects that were funded included Scrummy, a healthy eating programme, Breast Feeding Champions and No Smoking in the parks.

Total PRG allocated and spent £20,000

Health and Wellbeing Centre – Guideposts Trust and Herts Mind Network

The aim of the centre is to empower people with mental health or substance misuse issues, to develop their skills, build self-confidence and move forward into training, further education or paid employment. The funding provided the opportunity to redesign a shop front for local voluntary sector charities to deliver from. This project also provides intense one to one support via counselling and vocational advice, to motivate people back into training and paid employment, together with holistic support for people with complex needs, such as age related illness, learning disabilities and relationship or poverty issues.

Total PRG allocated and spent £67,520

Incubation Hub – Wenta

The LSP funded half of the £244,000 capital costs, with EEDA contributing the other half.

In addition to the My Incubator, the funding enabled an extension to be built onto the centre, to create a proper reception facility, modern training and meeting rooms and the installation of new telecoms and broadband to the building, which benefitted the existing tenants of the centre. My Incubator offers a full range of support for pre-start, new or early stage businesses and social enterprises, that require workspace and facilities, with an advisor on hand to 'mentor' through the early stages of start-up.

Total PRG allocated and spent £122,000

Lifestyle Programme – Hertsmere Leisure / Hertsmere Borough Council

A 10-week healthy living management programme introduced participants to a number of lifestyle practices that improved their overall health and well-being. This included an increase in physical activity; healthy diet; stress management, working habits and smoking cessation.

Total PRG allocated and spent £18,400

Liaison and Development – Community Action Hertsmere

This project developed and implemented a system for collecting current intelligence on Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) activities and issues to better inform deliberations in the partnership. It also worked with VCS organisations to clearly understand their needs and improve their governance, management and operations to assist them in being fit for purpose to deliver.

Total PRG allocated and spent £39,000

The Prince's Trust

The trust targets young people aged between 14–30, who are unemployed, (ex)offenders, those in or leaving care and those who have low educational attainment. The project funded and provided engaging activities that developed personal and work skills, assisted accessing work or training. It enabled young people to access vocational training, self-employment advice, and financial support to access further education, training or employment opportunities. This raised the aspirations of the participants and re-engaged them in positive activities, which benefitted the local community and economy.

Total PRG allocated £67,500 with a balance remaining of £14,358. In March 2015 representatives from the Prince's Trust will attend the LSP meeting and propose how they would like to allocate the remaining funding on local projects.

Safer Streets – Hertsmere Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

Total PRG allocated £47,499 with a balance of £26,500. The remaining funding will allow the project to continue to run for several more years across the borough.

Take Part – Community Action Hertsmere (CAH)

The Take Part programme was an 18-month initiative, which empowered individuals who felt they did not have a voice within the community, but wanted to be heard and wanted to get involved in local decisions. Through Take Part participants developed a number of skills such as increased confidence, facilitation and public speaking, all designed to help them become more active citizens.

Total PRG allocated and spent £30,000

Adults with Complex Needs

Adults with Complex Needs is a pilot project which services adults with chaotic lifestyles who are involved with a wide range of services at a significant cost and poor outcomes. The pilot projects aims to work closer with partners to deliver services to the adults with complex needs to achieve a more cost effective service and deliver interventions, solutions or improvements which are more customer focussed and effective.

A total of £22,580 was allocated to the project as a contribution towards the proposed £345,000 pilot project in Hertsmere and Three Rivers Councils.

4. Future Partnership Working 2015/2016 and Conclusion

Hertsmere Together's vision is to:

“shape a better future for the communities of Hertsmere through robust partnership working.”

To achieve this vision the LSP set out its new plan for future service improvements in Hertsmere across **three strategic objectives**, detailed within its Community Strategy 2013–2016. These include: Healthier Communities, Safer Communities and Thriving Communities. The LSP's themed sub-partnerships (Community Safety Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Partnership) will continue to put action plans together and develop innovative solutions to achieve the priorities.

We will continue to measure our performance and report back through these annual reports, which also provide an opportunity to showcase key successes and reflect on developments over the past year.

Adults with Complex Needs

Adults with Complex Needs is a pilot project which services adults with chaotic lifestyles who are involved with a wide range of services at a significant cost and poor outcomes.

The tender was awarded to Resolving Chaos on 22 June 2015. The two pilots will begin mobilisation shortly. Resolving Chaos will offer consistent support to around 60 individuals in Hertsmere and Three Rivers, using six caseworkers. Over the course of the pilots, they will support people to reach personal goals and reduce their reliance on services. Resolving Chaos will continue collecting economic data which helps partners to better understand the financial impact of this approach and will work collaboratively with other providers to create a sustainable service.

Community Profiles

The Community Profiles will be updated to expand awareness of the needs of the community by using detailed information to produce profiles for each of the 6 main settlement areas in Hertsmere based on individual ward data. The overview will further support the council's improvement of customer focus and access to services, providing a better basis on which to design services and add value through working in partnership.

The community profiles will also serve in assisting the council and its partners in maintaining knowledge about the borough.

Conclusion

During 2014/15 Hertsmere Together continued to develop partnership working within the borough to further improve the delivery of services to residents. As this report has detailed, there are many examples of successful partnership projects that have taken place under the auspices of the LSP, which have all contributed to the delivery of more efficient and effective public services within Hertsmere.

We welcome feedback on all aspects of the work of Hertsmere Together. If you have any comments or would like to discuss this document please contact Hertsmere Borough Council by email partnership.support@hertsmere.gov.uk, telephone 020 8207 7801 or write to Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, WD6 1WA.



