

## Community Focus Scrutiny Committee



Date	Thursday, 8 July 2010
Venue	Town Hall, St Annes
Committee members	Councillor Keith Hyde (Chairman) Councillor Thomas Threlfall (Vice-Chairman)  Christine Akeroyd, Maxine Chew, Elizabeth Clarkson, Barbara Douglas, Kathleen Harper, Ken Hopwood, Linda Nulty, Janine Owen, Dawn Prestwich, Paul Rigby, John Singleton
Other Councillors	Karen Buckley, Cheryl Little
Officers	Clare Platt, Tracy Scholes, Christine Miller, Lyndsey Lacey
Other Representatives	Heather Kelday - Age Concern Lancashire

### Councillor Maxine Chew

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman on behalf of the Committee congratulated Councillor Maxine Chew on her attainment of a 2:1 degree (with honours) in History and Heritage.

#### 1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any personal/prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.

#### 2. Confirmation of minutes

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the Community Focus Scrutiny Committee held on 27 May 2010 as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

#### 3. Substitute members

There were no substitutions

#### 4. Age Concern - Monitoring Report

By way of introduction, Clare Platt (Director of Community Services) presented an overview of key aspects of the three year Service Level Agreement that the Council has in place with Age Concern Lancashire to provide an information and advice service in Fylde. In doing so, she stated that as part of the agreement, the Council paid a grant of 16k per annum for the provision of key services.

Mrs Heather Kelday (Care Services Team Leader for Information and Advice) at Age Concern attended the meeting to present key points arising from the report including details of performance over the previous year.

In brief, the presentation covered details of the range of information and advice service provided and a profile of service users within the Fylde area. In addition, it made reference to the work undertaken with key local partners, staffing arrangements in place including the number of volunteers, details on the number of home visits made, training undertaken, an overview of comments received from the survey forms together with information on development plans in place.

A copy of the report of Age Concern Lancashire and the Service Level Agreement together with an update on the profile of services users/number of enquiries/referrals was circulated with the agenda.

Councillors Nulty and Singleton enquired about the percentage of residents from the rural community using and/or having access to Age Concern. In response, Mrs Kelday provided an overview of the services made available to the rural community via the Outreach Officer.

Councillor Rigby sought clarification on the number of contacts made to Age Concern via email. Mrs Kelday explained that over the last year only 4 people had made contact by email. She added that the preferred method of contact by the users was in person or by telephone.

Councillor Chew complimented Age Concern on their work and in particular suggested that it had greatly benefited the residents of her ward.

Councillor Harper asked about the number of ethnic groups using the service. Mrs Kelday confirmed that all the users who had made contact with the service were white British.

Councillor Hopwood asked for an overview of the types of enquires made by the 50-64 age group. Mrs Kelday stated that the queries essentially related to ill-health, redundancy and unemployment. She went on to explain that usually Job Centre Plus put the persons in contact with Age Concern.

Councillor Singleton expressed some concern about the value for money aspect of the grant funding arrangements particularly for those living in the rural areas.

Councillor Harper asked about the feedback received from all the service users. Mrs Kelday suggested that the low feedback responses were rather disappointing but that arrangements were being put in place to ensure that more replies are forthcoming.

Following consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED to note the report and to thank Mrs Kelday for the presentation and her attendance at the meeting.

(The Chairman indicated that he was satisfied that the matter was not controversial and dealt with the matter by a show of hands rather than by taking a recorded vote on it)

#### 5. LSP end of year Financial Statement and Report

Christine Miller (Partnerships Manager) presented a comprehensive report on the LSP end of year financial statement and report.

By way of background, Mrs Miller explained that the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) received the majority of its funding via the second homes funding allocation. She added that Lancashire County Council (LCC) is the main contributor of this funding and that Fylde Borough Council (FBC) also contributed an element of their second homes funding to the LSP.

Mrs Miller further reported that as part of the agreement, an end of year financial statement and narrative report was issued to the County Council and a copy was circulated with the agenda for members' consideration.

Mrs Miller stated that much of the work carried out in Fylde this year had focussed on the work of the individual theme groups of the LSP and their priorities. The Shaping the Place project had also been a major piece of work for the LSP. She added that this project won the Fylde POP Awards for 2009 in recognition for the improvements made to the physical environment and the reductions in crime and fire related incidents.

In brief, the report also made reference to other projects including, 'Build Up', the introduction of the Food Co-operative, Fylde in Focus, the Community Projects Fund, the Community Nutrition Audit, Citizens Panel, Ladies Golf 2009, Specialist Alcohol Worker, Monitored CCTV, various Theme Groups Projects and the Wild Life Trust project. The report also included details of relevant expenditure.

Councillors Nulty asked about the appropriateness of the Ladies Golf being included as a project. She also asked about the rolling out of the Shaping the Place project and the £5,000 set aside for Project 12 (community outreach). Mrs Miller explained the theme groups thinking behind the Ladies Golf project. With regard to the Shaping the Place project, she suggested that as this was centred around deprivation and that a review on how future projects were undertaken would need to be carried out. Mrs Miller also gave an undertaking to Councillor Nulty to provide her with the details of the community outreach project.

Members further commented on some minor variations in the accounts as presented. Mrs Miller stated that these would be reviewed and modified accordingly.

A number of members asked various questions relating to the work of the specialist alcohol worker. These were addressed by Mrs Miller.

Following detailed discussion it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the report

2. To express support for the on going work of the LSP and its projects.

(The Chairman indicated that he was satisfied that the matter was not controversial and dealt with the matter by a show of hands rather than by taking a recorded vote on it)

6. Proposed in Depth Review - Monitored CCTV

At the request of the Scrutiny Management Board, the committee considered a report of the Director of Governance and Partnership (Tracy Scholes) and the Portfolio Holder for Social Wellbeing (Councillor Cheryl Little) on the proposal to hold an in-depth review of monitored CCTV.

Included within the report was a proposed scoping document which sought to evaluate the effectiveness of the monitored CCTV system which had been installed in Kirkham and St Annes.

It was suggested that the review commence in September to note the first year anniversary of the CCTV being installed and that the work be completed by November.

Councillor Little provided the committee with an overview of the funding arrangements for the CCTV. In addition, she provided an explanation to the concerns raised by Councillor Hopwood about the feasibility of extending the CCTV system to the Lytham area.

Councillor Singleton enquired about the logging of reports and the associated statistics. Members were advised that 146 incidents had been captured on CCTV resulting in 12 arrests.

Following a full discussion it was RESOLVED:

1. To agree to the scoping document.

2. To establish a task and finish group to conduct the CCTV review and that the group comprise Councillors Elizabeth Clarkson, Thomas Threlfall, Dawn Prestwich, Ken Hopwood and John Singleton.

(The Chairman indicated that he was satisfied that the matter was not controversial and dealt with the matter by a show of hands rather than by taking a recorded vote on it)

-----

