

Gedling Partnership Update

April 2004

This is an update on the progress of the on-going work and projects of Gedling Partnership. If you would like further information on any of the projects, please get in touch with the contacts below.

1. Youth Issues Project

The Working Group is still gathering information and is continuing to undertake consultation with both young people and parents.

The Group has recently met with the Gedling District Senior Youth Worker, the drugs and alcohol advisory service, Compass, a local councillor with local youth work experience and knowledge and representatives of Churches Together. Contact has also been made with the Information Shop for Young People based in Mansfield Library.

The working group's questionnaire for young people was sent to Arnold Hill, Gedling and Colonel Frank Seeley School's in late February and the deadline has now passed. In addition over 110 survey interviews have been held with parents.

The group is now in the process of drafting its final recommendations.

Please find attached a detailed report (Appendix A) which outlines progress of this project. This report was presented to Gedling BC's Community and Quality of Life Committee on 17th March.

If you would like any further information, please contact Martin Gately, Gedling BC Scrutiny Officer on 0115 901 3627 or martin.gately@gedling.gov.uk.

2. Gedling Local Learning Plan

A Learning Plan Event has been arranged on 19th May.

The topic for the event is the 'learning plans' being developed across Greater Nottingham and will draw from the data collection exercise that has been carried

out in each of the Districts and the work undertaken in Nottingham City by the Area Learning team. The District Learning Plan activity is being coordinated by the Greater Nottingham Learning Partnership and is funded by the Learning & Skills Council.

Representatives from each district area will be attending. The purpose of the event is to agree the key issues across the conurbation, identify and agree the key issues for each district Learning Plan.

For more information please contact Lance Juby – 0115 901 3932 or lance.juby@gedling.gov.uk.

3. Health and Social Well-Being Partnership

An event has been arranged for 30th April to kick-start a coordinated approach to delivering the Our Health & Social Well-being theme of the Community Plan. Health and social care professionals and voluntary and community groups have been invited to share information and find out what has been going on already in Gedling.

The outcome of the event is an action plan of partnership projects, based on the Community Plan priorities. A new Health and Social Well-Being Partnership of Gedling Partnership will coordinate the delivery of the action plan.

For more information, please contact Mary Corcoran, Gedling Primary Care Trust on 0115 993 1431 or mary.corcoran@gedling-pct.nhs.uk.

4. Gedling Environmental Project

A workshop was held on 12th February to draw together people involved in environmental activity in Gedling. A summary report which includes outcomes from the day has now been produced. Positive feedback has been received from participants who felt the event organised by Gedling CVS was both encouraging and productive.

A steering group is being formed to take forward the ideas suggested at the workshop. A key proposal is to develop an Environmental Action Network for Gedling, with the steering group working on a funding bid to enable this to become a reality.

For more information or a copy of the summary, please contact Emma Kemp at Gedling CVS on 0115 926 6750 or info@gedlingcvs.org.uk.

5. Monitoring of Community Plan

Partners are in the process of updating a draft template for monitoring targets in the Community Plan. This will need to be presented to a Partnership meeting in the near future. Please contact Lance Juby for more information - 0115 901 3932 or lance.juby@gedling.gov.uk.

6. Gedling COMPACT

Partners will receive an update on progress in the near future.

For more information in the mean time, please contact Pam Wisher at Gedling CVS on 0115 926 6750 or pam-wisher@gedlingcvs.org.uk.

7. Consultation with Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Groups

Gedling Borough Council has drawn up a draft BME consultation framework on which LSP partners have been consulted with. An event for kick-starting a BME Forum for the Borough is planned for early summer to which representatives from Gedling Partnership will be invited.

For further information, please contact Janet Brothwell at Gedling Borough Council on 0115 901 3930 or janet.brothwell@gedling.gov.uk.

8. Greater Nottingham Transport Plan Consultation

Nottinghamshire County Council are the lead agency for Gedling Partnership in the delivery of the Greater Nottingham Transport Plan. The targets of the Community Plan theme Getting Around are drawn directly from this Plan. The County Council are keen to conduct their consultation through the district LSPs and are prepared to make a presentation on this at a future partnership meeting. Progress will need to be considered following the Board meeting on 14th April.

In the mean time if partners have any suggestions on how this consultation might be conducted, please contact Paul Hillier at Nottinghamshire County Council on 0115 977 4866 or paul.hillier@nottscc.gov.uk.

9. Gedling Crime & Disorder Audit & Strategy

Gedling Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) is embarking on its triennial Crime & Disorder Audit and Strategy process. The CDRP has now received guidance and will be conducting the Audit later this year and writing the Strategy early next. It will be consulting with the community and partners on both in the next twelve months.

The CDRP has also produced an information booklet "Feeling Safe in Gedling Borough." This has been delivered to every household in the Borough.

For further information, please contact Dave Jayne on 0115 901 3805 or david.jayne@gedling.gov.uk.

10. Health Equality Audit

Gedling Primary Care Trust is conducting a Health Equality Audit which is a self-assessment tool to identify how fairly services are distributed in relation to health need. The purpose of the Audit is to reduce health inequalities by using evidence to inform decisions on investment, service planning, commissioning and delivery and to review the impact of any action on inequalities.

A report outlining progress of the Health Equality Audit is being distributed to partners for comment. For further information, please contact Mary Corcoran, Director of Public Health on 0115 993 1431 or mary.corcoran@gedling-pct.nhs.uk.

11. Gedling Borough Council Key Aims Refinement

Following its Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Gedling Borough Council has drawn up an Improvement Plan, a requirement of which is a re-focusing of priorities. Members are beginning a process of refining the Council's existing Key Aims and in doing so they will be drawing upon previous community consultations, including the Gedling Community Plan. Gedling Borough Council intends to consult with its partners with regard to this in the summer.

For further information, please contact Stephen Bray on 0115 901 3808 or stephen.bray@gedling.gov.uk.

12. Gedling Borough Council Overall Satisfaction Survey

The results of the Gedling Borough Council General Satisfaction Survey 2003/4 are now available on request. A summary of this will appear in the Summer edition of Gedling CONTACTS magazine.

For more information, please contact Stephen Bray on 0115 901 3808 or stephen.bray@gedling.gov.uk.

APPENDIX A

Gedling Partnership Working Together



Report to Community & Quality of Life Scrutiny Committee and Gedling Partnership Board

Subject: Quality of Life for Young People Working Group (a review conducted in association with the Local Strategic Partnership)

Date 17th March 2004

Author Scrutiny Officer (on behalf of Chair)

Purpose of Report

To inform members of the progress of the above working group

Background

This working group comprises Cllrs McCrossen (Chair), Peet, Glass, Millar, A Dunkin, Pam Wisher (CVS), Zbigniew Szulc (Groundwork Greater Nottingham) and Deborah Clarke (Connexions).

Information Gathering

Since the last interim report of this working group (16th December 2003) the working group has met with Graham Farrow, the Gedling District Senior Youth Worker, Davina Daniels of the drugs and alcohol advisory service, Compass, Cllr Allen Clarke and representatives of Churches Together.

The Chair of the Youth working group also met separately with Phil Lee of the Information Shop for Young People based in Mansfield Library and his staff, accompanied by the Head of Personnel and IT and the Scrutiny Officer to receive a demonstration of their "Soapbox" website which allows young people to make their views heard in forums and online polls. The issues covered include: exam stress, teenage pregnancy, bullying and careers.

Gedling Senior Youth Worker

The working group met with Graham Farrow on 8th January and learned about the work of the Gedling Area Team. The working group heard with interest that the work of the Youth Service must relate to Ofsted defined “learning outcomes,” unlike, for instance, that of Pastor Holt of the Pentecostal Church in Carlton and other voluntary groups. The working group also heard of the difficulty in recruiting youth workers.

Further to this meeting, arrangements were made for Cllrs McCrossen and A Dunkin to see the work of the Route 149 Detached Team (the “Outreach Bus”), in Netherfield and Carlton respectively.

In addition, in a letter dated 6th February, Graham Farrow informed the Head of the Cabinet Office that he intends to create a new Detached Team to “engage with the growing number of young people congregating on the streets and open spaces around Gedling Borough.” The recruitment for this new team is due to take place from April 2004.

Graham Farrow also intends to increase the staffing of the Route 149 Detached Team. The new youth workers will undertake ‘Detached’ training and ideally spend time ‘shadowing’ a similar team elsewhere in the County.

Compass

On 21st January, the working group met with Davina Daniels, Compass Outreach Worker. Davina Daniels had been in post for just two and a half months and covers Broxtowe, Rushcliffe and Gedling. Compass provides a confidential advice, support and information for “problematic” use of drugs and alcohol. Compass does not reveal information to anyone unless there are child protection issues.

Compass can provide auricular (ear) acupuncture and needle exchange but these services are based in the City.

The working group were struck by the apparently scarce nature of the resources available to Compass.

Davina Daniels explained that it was often difficult to quantify the success of Compass – a success might be persuading someone not to inject heroin into their neck.

Cllr Allen Clarke

On 16th February, Cllr Clarke shared with the working group his experience of 50 years youth work. In particular Cllr Clarke believed it was a myth that young people want drop-in centres rather than organised activities.

Cllr Clarke also stated that there was very little co-ordination between the organisations involved in youth provision. Cllr Clarke mentioned that he had arranged a meeting for 25th February to discuss the co-ordination of partnership working in Netherfield.

Churches Together

On 23rd February, the working group met with the following representatives of Churches Together: David Robertson and Ruth Wood of the Salvation Army, John Fahey of the Eagle's Nest Church and Nick Thorley of the Methodist Church.

The working group were impressed with the information provided about the Life School project at Arnold Hill School which works with young people who are under a fixed term exclusion but have not been passed to another school. The project serves to engage the young people in activities and keep them affiliated to Arnold Hill School.

Consultation Exercise

The working group's questionnaire for young people was sent to Arnold Hill, Gedling and Colonel Frank Seeley School's in late February. The deadline for return of these questionnaires is 12th March.

The working group's consultant has now conducted over 110 survey interviews with parents.

Drafting

The working group has gathered a substantial amount of information and will shortly begin drawing together its recommendations for inclusion in a final report expected to be before the Scrutiny Committee in June.