

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

18th February 2009

STATEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER (Adult Social Care, Library and Information Services)

Engage in North Yorkshire

I am pleased to announce that Adult & Community Services have developed 'Engage in North Yorkshire' a community resource that will deliver accessible information on a wide range of community based groups, organisations and service providers. This user friendly information system, part of the existing libraries' management system Talis, will be accessed directly by the public and used by workers in the statutory and voluntary sectors as a sign posting resource. Engage in North Yorkshire is one of our responses to meeting the Government's expectations that information be available to enable people to maintain their independence, health and well being.

New Beginnings:

Helmsley Library Opening - Helmsley library and information centre which is now sited at the front of Helmsley Town Hall, directly onto the market place, celebrated its £175,000 redevelopment with free taster sessions in alternative health therapies in January. The library incorporates many suggestions made by local residents during public consultation and also benefits from additional state-of-the-art flat screen computers providing internet access as well as new books, DVDs and talking books. In addition to the library service, Ryedale District Council will operate from the centre on Fridays and there will be access to Helmsley town council services on Monday and Tuesday mornings. The project is part of North Yorkshire County Council's continuing drive to modernise libraries and to make a wide range of information and services accessible with other partners.

Esk Moors Extra Care - Abbeyfield Esk Moors Lodge, Castleton, opened in January 2009 with 12 units for rent. It is a £3.6 million project and has been developed by Abbeyfield UK in partnership with North Yorkshire County Council and Scarborough Borough Council. Abbeyfield Esk Moors Lodge will be run by Esk Moors Caring, a local registered charity and not-for profit social enterprise, which we support to deliver care and support across Esk Moors and which will provide the 24 hour cover for these new apartments. A full ten years in planning has resulted in this ground breaking and award winning project providing affordable "Extra Care" Housing apartments for local older people.

End of life Care Strategy

The County Council's Adult and Community Services has teamed up with NHS North Yorkshire and York, City of York Council, third sector

organisations, carers and patients to produce a new End of Life Care Strategy. The Strategy aims to improve experiences for patients, together with their families and carers, who are nearing the end of their lives by enabling care to be delivered more effectively in a setting that best meets the wishes of the patient. A key theme of the strategy is to ensure that high quality and services centred around the person are delivered in partnership by statutory and voluntary organisations for both patients and their families.

Business Link Events in Libraries

Adult and Community Services' libraries are hosting a series of free drop in business clinics organised by Business Link Yorkshire around the County during February. The clinics are aimed at people starting up or already running a business, whether these are large or small concerns, and advisors will provide one-to-one information, advice and support at the drop in clinics.

County Councillor Chris Metcalfe