



North Yorkshire County Council

Scarborough and Whitby Constituency Committee

20 March 2019

Stronger Communities – Community Showcase

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on the North Yorkshire Coast Opportunity Area and to showcase the work of Gallows Close Centre, a delivery partner organisation for the Essential Life Skills Programme in the Scarborough and Whitby constituency area.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Stronger Communities Programme, working with a wide range of partners from within the Council, health and from the voluntary and community sector, agreed a strategy in 2017 and published the investment prospectus 'Inspire, Achieve, Innovate'. The work of the Programme and any projects supported through it will need to demonstrate that they are making a positive contribution to one or more of the following outcomes:

- Reduced inequalities;
- Improved social connectedness; and
- Improved social, physical or emotional well-being.

- 2.2 The scope for transforming the Council's services from traditional direct service delivery models to those that are more collaborative in their design, production and delivery is substantial; therefore the four priority programme service areas are:

- Libraries;
- Community Transport
- Children, Young People & Families, and
- Services for Older People and Adults.

3.0 North Yorkshire Coast Opportunities Area

- 3.1 The North Yorkshire Coast has been designated by the Department for Education (DfE) as one of 12 'opportunity areas'. This means that additional funding is being invested in the North Yorkshire Coast (covering Scarborough, Whitby and Filey) with the purpose of helping local children get the best start in life, no matter what their

background. The focus of this programme is not just on what can be done to help inside schools, but also to create opportunities outside school for children and young people to develop essential life skills, have different experiences and broaden their horizons.

- 3.2 Stronger Communities was asked to devise and administer a community grants scheme, the Essential Life Skills (ELS) fund, on behalf of the Department for Education in recognition of the programmes strong track record in running funding programmes. The team established an application process and evaluation criteria, making recommendations to the DfE for approval. The aim of this fund of £820k was to provide short-term funding for new or significantly extended varied provision across the NYCOA. This provision will help children and young people aged 5-18 years old to develop skills; improve their wellbeing; and engage with their communities through a wide range of activities and support (such as skills development, drop in sessions, sports, arts, culture and social action).
- 3.3 Six projects were funded in the first tranche of funding and twelve projects in the second tranche. A full list of all the projects supported is listed in Appendix A of this report. All Projects supported through the Essential Life Skills fund had to demonstrate that they would provide opportunities for regular and persistent participation and that they would make a positive contribution to one, or more, of the following:
- Aspirations
 - Communication skills
 - Wellbeing
 - Confidence
 - Resilience
 - Self-esteem
 - Problem-solving
 - Team-working
 - Leadership skills

Supported projects needed to demonstrate that they had an impact on the development of skills and be able to reach different groups of young people and their families, in particular those who do not currently participate in these types of activities. All Projects had to be accessible to children and young people of all genders, socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds and across a range of abilities, including those with special educational needs and disabilities.

4.0 Community Showcase

4.1 Gallows Close Centre

Gallows Close Centre, a not for profit organisation based in Scarborough, is an increasingly well trusted and supported resource on the edge of Barrowcliff. The Centre Manager runs the Centre supported with one part time staff member and a small but very dedicated group of volunteers. Over the past few years the demand on the Centre has grown and Stronger Communities provided support for the Centre Manager and her team to start developing a broader vision of how they can best support the communities living in the Wards of Barrowcliff and Northstead as well as the wider Scarborough area, in relation to improved health and wellbeing outcomes, support for parents and families and engagement with children and young people. Gallows Close has already significantly grown the number of

partnerships it is involved in and expanded the remit of its support. Partnerships include its Aged Veterans Community Garden Project with Ex Forces Support North Yorkshire and Bushcraft Employment and Training programme with Askham Bryan College.

- 4.2 The Essential Life Skills Fund funded the Gallows Close Young People's Activity Programme whose aim was to increase confidence, raise aspirations and improve the life chances of local children and young people and will break the cycle of generational disadvantage that is prevalent on the Barrowcliff Estate. The Gallows Close programme has included physical activities such as gymnastics, street dance, football and mixed martial arts as well as first aid training, star gazing, fossil hunting and fun science. All activities are developed and monitored to make sure that they meet the outcomes of the ELS fund.

5.0 Points for discussion

- How best can NYCC and partner statutory bodies work with and support VCSE organisations who are trusted by communities in order to engage with priority areas such as school readiness, tackling obesity and smoking cessation?

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 It is recommended that Members note the content of this report.

Karen Atkinson
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4 March 2019

Appendix A

Essential Life Skills Programme - Partners

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Animated Objects | Arts Workshops - Filey, Scarborough & Whitby |
| Creative Briefs | Design Programme from concept to delivery – Scarborough |
| Futureworks | Practical and outdoor challenge activities – Scarborough |
| Gallows Close | Mixed sports and arts activity programme – Scarborough |
| Gladstone Road CP School | Go Wild – environmental activity programme – Scarborough |
| Invisible Dust | Digital and Coding skills in the library – Scarborough |
| Kingdom Faith | Youth Angels – Scarborough |
| Krash Labs | Digital and Gaming Workshops – Scarborough, Whitby & Filey |
| Northstead CP School | Outdoor activities and environmental activities – Scarborough |
| NYBEP | Range of activities including arts, environment, employment – Scarborough, Whitby, Filey |
| NYCC Youth Justice | Streetstars – Outdoor activities for LAC - Scarborough |
| NYMAZ | Range of Music based activities – Scarborough, Whitby |
| North Yorkshire Sport | Get on Track programme – Scarborough, Whitby, Filey |
| North Yorkshire Youth | Youth Mentoring – Scarborough, Whitby, Filey |
| Scarborough & Ryedale Carers | Access Bursaries – Scarborough, Whitby, Filey |
| Sidewalk | Detached youth work and sporting activities - Scarborough |
| Stephen Joseph Theatre | Performing arts – Scarborough |
| The Wave Project | Surfing based activities – Scarborough |