

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COMMUNITIES and HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

**17 November 2014**

**Report of the Chief Executive**

**Part 1- Public**

**Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)**

**1 UPDATE REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE EAST MALLING PARTNERSHIP**

**To report on the progress of the East Malling Partnership and endorse the latest East Malling Action Plan**

**1.1 Background**

- 1.1.1 Members will be aware that the East Malling Partnership is a long standing community regeneration partnership. The Partnership is a wide ranging, multi agency group which meets twice a year with representatives from the parish, borough, and county councils, health, local schools, police and voluntary organisations.
- 1.1.2 In addition to the East Malling Partnership, working groups are also set up where necessary, to take forward specific projects. Much of the work is undertaken from the St James Centre, which has a number of useful meeting rooms, the hall and the Community Arts Café. The Community Development and St James Centre Manager for East Malling is Angela Borsos from the Beat Project. Over the years Angela has brought a tremendous amount of commitment and energy to the Partnership. Angela is based at the St James Centre and acts as a point of contact for local people and co-ordinates the activities of the Partnership.
- 1.1.3 Recent work undertaken in East Malling includes a mental health project “my time for me” which was aimed specifically at young girls referred onto the course from local schools. The project offered counselling and life skills coaching and aimed to raise confidence and aspirations to vulnerable young women. This work will continue in the future via a “Mother/Daughter” event aiming to support emotional and mental wellbeing. Additional health programmes also take place at the Centre, including smoking cessation and Street Games which is starting this month (Street Games is a club covering all sports aimed at 14-18 year olds).
- 1.1.4 Job Clubs are held weekly at the centre and are going very well with regular referrals from the Job Centre. These will continue to be a focus within the latest Action Plan.

- 1.1.5 A recent successful bid to the Community Enhancement Fund also means that the Challenger Troop CIC will be providing a one of youth diversionary activity in East Malling – this will be outward bound, adventure style activities. The aim will be to provide positive projects and activities and encourage young people to break away from getting involved in criminal activities/ anti-social behaviour.

## 1.2 East Malling Action Plan

- 1.2.1 In order to review work and achievements in East Malling and to consider actions for the future an Action Plan is regularly updated. This is used as a tool to drive forward key themes of work and to nominate lead agencies within each area of work. The latest Action Plan is attached (Annex 1) and highlights the current themes which the Partnership will be addressing, these are: Youth Provision, Raising Aspirations and General Health and Lifestyle. The approach has been to go for a concise plan – with more specific targets which will offer clearer outcomes and benefits to local residents.

## 1.3 Legal Implications

- 1.3.1 None

## 1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.4.1 None

## 1.5 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.5.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

## 1.6 Recommendations

- 1.6.1 That the current East Malling Partnership Action Plan **BE ENDORSED** and that progress on the action plan **BE REPORTED** to a future meeting of the Board.

The Chief Executive confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

contact: Gill Fox

Nil

Julie Beilby  
Chief Executive