



Community Cohesion Project

Report - June 2016

This is a summary of the activity take took place on the Community Cohesion Project since the last Community Cohesion Project Steering Group.

Development work:

- **Changing Lives**

Ade has developed a working relationship with Luisa Alvarez and Ian Fiddes from the GAP/MAP Project, from Changing Lives.

"MAP: Exploring the lives of Male Sex Workers in Tyne and Wear

Male Action Project (MAP) operates as part of Changing Lives and works closely with the Girls Are Proud (GAP) project. MAP was equally funded by The Millfield House Foundation and The Northern Rock Foundation.

The project concentrates on the scope, extent and the individual profiles of those engaged in male sex work within Newcastle-upon-Tyne and those who travel within Tyne and Wear. This will in turn provide vital information necessary to present recommendations for policy change.

As a direct result of the work carried out as part of the MAP project, it is now clear that there has been a small scale red light district operating – the difference being that men are soliciting and not women. Kerb crawling also takes place next to the main cruising site in Newcastle, identified as a redlight district, and the same sort of behaviour probably takes place at other sites throughout the North East.

This Summary Report provides information from research and includes future recommendations based on findings.

Please note, the MAP report contains information and images of an adult nature and is recommended for over 18's only.” (Changing Lives website July 2016)

The first referral has been sent to us and 1-2-1 work has started with the first client that came through a direct referral. Also, Ade translated an invitation letter for a monthly drop-in for the GAP Project for the Romanian clients and is nearly finished with the translation of a GAP A5 leaflet. As a thank you Ade and Alex got invited to attend for free the “Sex work and Sexual Exploitation” training delivered by Changing Lives. The usual cost per worker is of £50/day. Ongoing communication is present.

- **Ophelia Project**

Ade has continued her involvement and support within the Ophelia Project. Ophelia is a pilot project delivered in partnership with HealthWorks Newcastle and Years of Care Partnership, in the West End of Newcastle. The main aim of the project is looking at the level of health literacy of local residents.

Ade has taken part in the Residents and Health Care Professionals Focus Group. It was attended by 21 Romanian and Czech residents and over 15 health care professionals.

Part of Ade's role was to recruit residents to take part in the focus group, to translate on the day to the residents that attended and prior to the event Ade had translated all the material provided to her by Newcastle and Years of Care Partnership. She also made sure that the Romanian residents felt encouraged to express their opinions and views regarding the access to health care services and understanding the health information received.

- **The 'Sue Penna Associates' Recovery Toolkit Programme**

Ade and Irma got trained and accredited by Sue Penna in delivering the 'Sue Penna Associates' Recovery Toolkit programme. For Newcastle area is a pilot project. It uses Cognitive Behaviour Therapy CBT in helping survivors of Domestic Violence overcome their trauma and to move on with their lives. The Toolkit was developed 7 years ago and trialled across the UK. The data after delivery is very promising, showing great life progress in the people that completed the programme.

Are two different programmes one for adults and one for children and young people. Ade and Irma got trained and accredited to deliver both programmes.

Five organisations from Newcastle sent workers to be trained. Future meeting will take part in order to form partnerships to deliver the programme. It will be based on a 'buddy up' system of delivery.

- **Staying Afloat Residential**

Ade has supported one woman that completed the first Staying Afloat course, here at Riverside to attend the 2 day residential. This

woman has language barriers and has a son with brain damage from a stroke.

The Residential has been a success. This has been said by the women that attend. Everyone enjoyed themselves, created new friendships and learned more about resilience and confidence building.

Ade and some staff at Riverside have worked hard in finding a carer for the weekend in order to enable the woman to take part without worrying about her son.

Ade has attended her son's care plan review which was a multiagency meeting and has lobbied both for the mother and for the son.

Riverside also provided an interpreter to support the carer/son during the Residential.

- **Newcastle Carers Association**

Ade has made links with the Newcastle Carers Association that are based in Byker. The link is vital for one client that Ade has been working with since November 2015. She cares for her son and is very isolated. Ade attended one meeting alongside the client and has made sure that the client will receive constant support from Newcastle Carers.

At the request of the client, Ade is due to go with the client to the first carers coffee morning. It is next Wednesday. Newcastle Carers will provide an interpreter for the event. Ade is going there for moral support and to encourage the client to attend future similar events independently.

- **Fire and Rescue Service Equality Framework Peer Challenge**

Ade got a direct invitation to attend the Fire and Rescue Service Equality Framework Peer Challenge from the partners from the Fire and Rescue Service that she usually collaborates with. It was a unique experience. It was a great networking opportunity. Aside of from Directors of Services from North Tyneside Council, Newcastle and Gateshead Council, Northumbria Police was there, Your Homes Newcastle and Changing Lives. Ade got to describe the Community Cohesion Project and the working relationship between the project and the Fire Brigade.

- **‘Our Place’ partnership**

Ongoing involvement within the ‘Our Place’ Partnership.

Community Events:

- **‘Love your back Lane’ Consultation Event, 26 May 2016**

It took place at the Millin Centre. Please find below the evaluation done by Andrew White that coordinates the ‘Our Place’ Partnership.

‘The aim of our engagement event was to get local residents to come along, take part in activities and share their views on what they’d like to see happen with their back lanes and the local area.

In order to make this event happen each of the organisations involved in Elswick Our Place provided time and resources – it was a real team effort! We were aiming to get 20-30 local residents along to the event and with **24 attending** on the day (not counting staff) despite the weather, we hit our target.

As well as taking part in a range of craft activities there were **17 suggestions** on the interactive wall. We know that a number of local people want change and aren’t happy with the state of the area and this is reflected in some of the comments.

Huge thanks must go to Karen Underhill who put a lot of effort into organising her craft area, the interactive wall and ideas tree, and in capturing much of the activities in the photos included here:



Sunflower wall



Fruit Kebabs



Creative pots



Interactive wall.



Suggestions on the wall for improvements to the lanes.

Games for children. Hopscotch etc.	Games, plants, seats.	Make Bee Hotels and plant bee- friendly plants	Who will do the maintenance afterwards?
Please make alert people for keep clean the street.	Street bins overflowing into streets.	Concrete planters are an eyesore, black bags dumped, trees uprooted, maintenance needed.	More bins & better collection (bins often full).
Awareness campaigns in schools or 'clean the neighbourhood days.	Events to make cleanliness of the streets a public concern.	We want everything is clean.	More flowers.
Collect rubbish.	A better system for refuse collection. Maybe communal.	More colours. Animate people to paint their backyard doors/walls eg choose a day to meet & paint. Could be combined with neighbourhood festival with music and food.	

Keep in touch over: Facebook, email, flyers (to reach new persons)	Keep in touch: Facebook page' Notice board in the Millin Centre, word of mouth! Leaflets.
--	---

Karen Underhill summarised the verbal feedback she received on the day and has forwarded that to us:

- People would like the Love the Lane to include all the family.
- Some of the concerns about for moving forward were around the frequency of bin collection.

Keeping in touch

- People suggested regular monthly/fortnightly meetings at the Millin or locally.
- Face book and social media were suggested to generate interest.
- Residents could drive the meetings- "a committee -greening champions"

Sustaining the interest

- Most people did agree vandalism might be an issue, some planters had already been vandalised.
- Neighbourhood watch schemes? I suggested the wings had survived well in Arthur's hill in a busy public space.

Engagement

- New skills could be achieved. Greening and gardening. Organisational, group and peer support. Creative sessions, mosaic, planters, work with crates and pallets- The Great Crate club. A community mural perhaps?
- 'Hop scotch- floor mural created by residence.
- 'Growing plants to eat was mentioned several times.'
- 'Tart up the bins to make them interesting and more likely to be used.'
- 'Using the walls as an open air gallery.'
- 'There would need to be plenty colour.'
- Somewhere is needed to hide the bins or make them more appealing.
- A Street party /opening of the lane was suggested. Activities in the lane, arts craft food etc.
- I suggested pop up Cinema and /or performance to celebrate a launch.

Next steps

Not many people left their contact details but a number on the day did express an interest in getting involved. As with the suggestions above a Facebook page might be a good way for local residents to keep track of events and activities in the follow up to the launch event. We could build time and resources for this into the next funding applications to be developed which are to the LEAF fund and Greggs.

The next Elswick Our Place meeting is scheduled to take place on **9.30 – 11.30am on Tuesday 14th June** at the Central Fire Station, Elswick Road. At this meeting we discuss next steps in more detail. "

- **Family fun day, scoot, step and cycle into summer, Hodgkin park, 2nd of June 2016**

A multiagency event, e.g. Northumbria Police, Fire and Rescue Service, YMCA, Change4Life, Northumberland Wildlife, SureStart, Riverside Community Health Project, Dr. BiKE, Gravity Radio and HealthWorks Newcastle.

Ade promoted the Community Cohesion Project to around 300 people.

- **'Making Newcastle as Inclusive as we can' – Consultation event**

Ade got an invite to attend the 'Making Newcastle as Inclusive as we can' Consultation event. The event was facilitated by Nic Crosby from In Control Partnerships and the purpose of the consultation was to think through real situations for children and young people and how to support them to be included. Families, providers and community organisations to work in group's problem solving and providing practical solutions to make real differences in children's lives were invited to attend this event.

- **The Children's Society SMART Project Refugee Week Event 21st of June 2016**

Ade has been invited to attend the Children's Society SMART Project celebration event for Refugee Week.

Good networking event.

Time to Talk Sessions: 6

Home visits: 7

Meetings: 7