

## **CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**9 September 2021**

### **COUNCILLOR SAM SANDELL - CABINET MEMBER FOR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES**

For the period 9<sup>TH</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021

#### **1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.**

Over the last few months I have had several meetings with Officers. Some are getting to know them and their teams working within each department.. I am starting to have regular catch ups with officers. I have also had training on the Homechoice system.

Please see figures below for **Homechoice**

1057 live applicants on the register

4 emergency  
115 high band  
328 medium  
610 low

235 new applications and changes of circumstances received during the month

42 properties let

#### **Summer of Play**

##### **Attendances for Summer Holiday activities:**

A total of 18,537 children have attended activities between the 22<sup>nd</sup> July and 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021. Given the difficult 18 months we have just been through I think that this is very encouraging.

Summer of Play Pay as you go Activities.

Swimming 10,409 Paid People  
Swimming Under 4'S 1,466

Alive Adventures 1,466 Paid People

Alive Adventures Under 1's 44

KASET 1,324 People.

Roller Skating 331 Paid People

Tumble Teds 759 Paid People

Tumble Teds Under 1's 306

**Total 16,135 people**

**All holiday activities 1,039**

**Big Norfolk Holiday Fun 1,363**

**Total 2,402 People**

**Total for all activities 18,537 People**

### **Well Done**

At the award ceremony (online) of the UK active awards, against a very tough field of finalists Alive West Norfolk were awarded 'Highly Commended' in the 'Business Continuity and Success during Covid-19' category. They were close on the heels of the winners Leisure-net- active net but to get this is great recognition of the work done by all staff involved.

### **Careline update**

Careline serves West Norfolk, North Norfolk and surrounding counties. As of July 2021 we currently have 3,928 clients.

The Careline service offers Personal alarms, falls pendants, Key Safes, Smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms and Assistive Technology (Motion Sensor Lights/Pager Systems).

Covid-19 has impacted on all departments of the Borough Council. In the initial phases of lockdown in March 2020 Careline fitters were unable to go into client's homes, so were re-deployed to support deliveries of food and medication collections for vulnerable clinically extremely vulnerable residents (this provision was 7 days a week). This caused a backlog for the Careline department and we are working hard to catch up with the requirements of our residents.

In October 2020 the monitoring provider for Careline was taken over by a different provider which caused huge problems due to the switch of the numbers. We have since been out to tender and have a new provider – Lifeline24 who we are working well with.

Supplies of equipment have been impacted on due to Covid-19 which in turn has affected some of our clients and the time they are waiting for installations.

Careline launched their new website in 2020 [www.careline-cs.org.uk](http://www.careline-cs.org.uk)

### **I'm Going Home project**

This project was implemented as a pilot in October 2019 to support the discharge team at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn. If a patient was deemed as being able to go home but needing reassurance and support, then the Buddy Button (this is a GPS tracking and falls detector) was allocated to them free of charge for 6 weeks. After the 6 weeks the client is contacted by a member of the Careline team to see if they would like to take on the Buddy Button and pay for it or to have any other alarm provision from Careline. If they did not want to carry on with the product then it was collected, cleaned and cleared and returned to the QEH for re-issue. The project became Business as Usual in March 2020.

To date there have been 69 clients discharged from hospital with the support and reassurance of a Buddy Button. This could contribute to reducing the need for a hospital bed for longer than necessary. The project is currently on hold due to issues with the management of it at the QEH.

### **Lily**

When the national lockdown was implemented in March 2020 Lily became the Emergency Hub for the BCKLWN. The team grew from 2 individuals to 21 (consisting of re-deployed Borough Council and Alive Leisure staff). These staff supported Lily with welfare checks, medication collection and deliveries and food deliveries. We also worked closely with the Norfolk County Council Library staff to co-ordinate doorstep checks and manage volunteers to conduct these. Data was provided by NCC every day and collated back to them with actions taken.

### **Housing Standards**

The council was successful in its bid for funding to deliver a 7 month project around enforcing the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in the Private Rented Sector. Work is ongoing to build the project team at present and further information and promotion will come over the next few months. The project finishes at the end of March 2022.

The LAD1B scheme to deliver green home improvements is being extended which will help with the delivery of more schemes across the consortium area, which includes this Council. Work in West Norfolk has been primarily focussed on Freebridge properties.

Work is progressing on delivery of LAD2 and building a bid for LAD3 schemes which will provide further opportunities for green home improvements in both the social and private sector.

The Fit and Proper person test requirements for Residential Caravan Sites is now live with a deadline of October 21 for applications to be received. To date we have only received one application form, more work will be undertaken on this to encourage applications and avoid enforcement work for non-compliance.

## **2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.**

Kings Lynn Festival has announced their Autumn Programme. This will complete the Festivals programme which has been stretched out over a longer period instead of holding the programme during the two weeks in summer.

### **Autumn events are-**

Sept 24 Minerva piano trio TH coffee concert

Oct 16 KL Festival Chorus

Oct 31 Brighthouse and Rastrick Corn Exchange

Nov 6 Benson Wilson coffee concert Town Hall

Nov 7 or 21 Hill quartet All Saints

Nov 20 Blazin' Fiddles Guildhall

Dec 4 Meera Maharaj (flute) and D Devagino (piano) Town Hall, coffee concert

### **Cabinet Meetings**

Cabinet

Meeting with the Leader

Meeting with Anita Jones Chief Executive Freebridge Housing

Meeting with Mark Whitmore Officer CSNN

Health and Wellbeing Meeting

Meeting with Sarah Dennis

Meeting with Karen Beard and Team Homechoice and Housing

Meeting with Lily and Careline

Meeting with Neil Gromett Alive West Norfolk and a visit to Hunstanton Oasis