

Communities / Isolation All Party Working Group – Executive Response Action Plan
Cabinet: 16th June 2021

	Recommendation	Proposed action (or action already taken)	Lead Member/Officer	Deadline
No.1	<p><i>(Working together / community flexibility and resilience)</i> Work together with communities and partners to provide support to re-open community venues. Build flexibility into communities / community services to increase resilience, working closely with service providers and to get ready for when covid-19 restrictions are lifted.</p>	<p>Ensure, particularly through the Communities Delivery Plan (approved by Cabinet in December 2020), that collaborative working supports community resilience, including ‘re-opening and growing’ community assets. This will be taken forward in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ensuring alignment with the work of the Communities Recovery Group across libraries, children’s centres, archives and heritage, country parks and Rights of Way and Highways community programmes to support recovery of community assets b) Embedding lessons from Covid-19 into the Place Based Approach and key community assets, including children’s centres and libraries c) Ensuring the strengths based social recovery and developing Supportive Communities delivery plan incorporates asset development, working with communities, voluntary sector partners and parishes d) Recovery and growth of local community groups and facilities will be key consideration in the review of Members fund for 2021/22 following success of Covid-19 fund 	<p>1a) Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture/ Helen Riley /Janene Cox/Catherine Mann</p> <p>1b) Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture /Cabinet Member for Children and Young People /Helen Riley /Natasha Moody /Catherine Mann /Joseph Sullivan</p> <p>1c) Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing /Richard Harling /Claire McIver /Tilly Flanagan</p> <p>1d) Leader of the Council /Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture /John Tradewell /Ann-Marie Davidson /Pete Barker</p>	<p>1a) June 2021</p> <p>1b) August 2021</p> <p>1c/ 1d) April 2021</p>

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<p>No.2</p> <p><i>(Training and navigation skills)</i> Ensure access to training (including health literacy and digital skills) for volunteers and Members, helping to build on and develop 'Navigation skills' (in addition to signposting) to support communities to access the right local community support</p>	<p>This will be progressed through the Digital Inclusion plan (approved by Cabinet in February 2021), Supportive Communities programme (2021-22), VCSE Strategic Capacity Building Partnership and Members Programme, by:</p> <p>a) Effective communication engagement and training (including Community Help Point training for Elected Members) being part of the developing Supportive Communities programme, which focuses on harder to reach adults, communities, and vulnerable groups (aged 18+)</p> <p>b) Ensuring training for volunteers, supported by the VCSE Strategic Capacity Building Partnership, focuses on Community Help Points, and helps develop navigation skills / awareness of community support available</p> <p>c) The Digital Inclusion Plan and Members Induction development, includes a clear focus to encourage / help Elected Members promote digital access and signposting residents to digital resources and support where possible (particularly in areas with higher risk of digital exclusion)</p>	<p>2a) Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing /Richard Harling /Claire McIver /Tilly Flanagan</p> <p>2b) Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture/John Tradewell /Andrew Donaldson /Jon Topham</p> <p>2c) Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills / Cabinet Member for Finance /John Tradewell /Andrew Donaldson /Ann-Mare Davidson /Pete Barker</p>	<p>2a) June 2021</p> <p>2b/ 2c) July 2021</p>
<p>No.3</p> <p><i>(Community Help – and Health-Points)</i> Explore potential of 'Community Help (and Health) Points' with the support local communities, parish councils, community and neighbourhood groups volunteers, to meet current and future local needs / maximise volunteer capacity</p>	<p>Through the Supportive Communities programme (and Do It Staffordshire / County Council volunteer recruitment), the lessons learned from existing 14 'Community Help Points' will be considered alongside any potential to build on this for any volunteer led 'Community Help -and Health- Points'</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing /Richard Harling / Claire McIver /Tilly Flanagan</p>	<p>July 2021</p>

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No.4	<p><i>(Build on positive communication links)</i></p> <p>Continue to build on the improved communications and links across the County Council, District / Borough councils, Parish Councils, voluntary and local service providers to ensure community support and resilience</p>	<p>Building on key learning around improved communication from the response and recovery to the Covid19 pandemic is key. To further progress this:</p> <p>a) DoingOurBit ‘local campaigns’ will promote resilience, encourage social action and improve communications with communities locally (the initial focus will be on loneliness)</p> <p>b) The Members Programme will enable and drive communication and links, including initially as part of the developing role of Parish Councils (i.e. the initial Loneliness campaign).</p> <p>c) The Supportive Communities delivery plan (2021-22) will include a focus on supporting the covid-19 response, strong partnerships, robust data and insight, alongside effective communication and engagement across partners - with communities at the heart</p>	<p>4a) Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture/John Tradewell /Andrew Donaldson /Rose Hampton /Adam Rooney</p> <p>4b) Leader of the Council /Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture /John Tradewell /Andrew Donaldson /Pete Barker</p> <p>4c) Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing /Richard Harling /Claire McIver /Tilly Flanagan</p>	<p>4a) end of May 2021</p> <p>4b / 4c) June 2021</p>
No.5	<p><i>(Linking schools and older people)</i></p> <p>‘Buddy up’ with schools to explore potential to reduce isolation of older people</p>	<p>As part of the Digital Inclusion plan, identify key work already in place and explore opportunities to potentially establish a scheme linking schools with residential care homes to reduce social isolation and promote digital connectivity</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Finance /Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture /John Tradewell /Andrew Donaldson/ /Tilly Flanagan</p>	<p>June 2021</p>

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<p>No 6</p> <p><i>(MPFT links and opportunities)</i> Consider opportunities to work collaboratively to improve awareness / links to community support and also help support the mental health of everyone in our communities (e.g. with MPFT and other key partners)</p>	<p>With communities at the heart, ensure through the Supportive Communities delivery plan that opportunities are considered around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment with social prescribing and the NHS/ Primary Care Networks • Supporting and promote Staffordshire Connects as <i>the directory</i> for local community support / assets across Staffordshire • A targeted community response to reduce isolation and loneliness to help improve the mental health in our communities 	<p>Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing /Richard Harling /Claire McIver /Tilly Flanagan</p>	<p>June 2021</p>
<p>No.7</p> <p><i>(Help tackle young people's loneliness/ isolation)</i> Help tackle loneliness / isolation in young people working with communities, particularly promoting local community support and seeking ongoing views of young people to inform the approach</p>	<p>Working together with communities to help tackle this important issue, building on strengths that already exist and support action requires a continued focus. To further progress this, including through maximising the reach of Staffordshire Connects and information advice and guidance and we will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ensure DoingOurBit 'Let's beat loneliness together' campaign promotes resilience by: recognising what loneliness is and how to reach out to family, friends or trusted adults.; help them take practical steps to combat loneliness, including developing an education pack to help understand the issue and the steps they can take to address it b) Ensure that people are connected with local sources of support through Staffordshire Connects, encouraging Elected Members and local organisations / groups to input and promote this locally c) Ensure engagement, for example with Staffordshire Youth Union, Voice Project and feedback from partners, helps inform the potential support on offer further tackle issues (i.e. developing Staffordshire Connects further) 	<p>7a) Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture / John Tradewell/ Andrew Donaldson / Rose Hampton</p> <p>7b / c) Cabinet Member for Children and Young People /Helen Riley /Natasha Moody /Marie Wood</p>	<p>7a) July 2021</p> <p>7b / c) Ongoing</p>