

Clifton East and Clifton West Area Partnership Update

The first meeting of the Clifton East and Clifton West Area Partnership was held in November and included a range of partners from statutory, voluntary, community and ward councillors, as well as a number of the Clifton East and Clifton West Community Reps. Three priorities were agreed at this meeting – Mental Health and Isolation, Food Poverty, and Employment – and subsequent sub-groups were set up to look at these priorities in more detail. It was felt that while there are issues around themes such as Housing, Communication, and Digital Inclusion, these would be better placed to be golden threads running through the work carried out in the subgroups. Currently, the sub groups and Area Partnership meetings are held on Tuesday afternoons, with the Partnership and subgroups rotating each week.

Mental Health and Isolation sub group

The Mental Health and Isolation sub-group initially identified the need to carry out a gap analysis to identify what support was currently in place in order to identify where gaps exist. This was done and it was felt there was a large gap with regards to support for working age people. The group is now exploring what sort of groups would be beneficial.

Food Poverty

The Food Poverty Sub-group is aiming to establish what support there was for people in the area, where there were gaps, and how people can be supported not only in times of crisis, but also to ensure ongoing access to affordable food and meals. A gap analysis was carried out identifying what days and what time of support is in place, as well as an in-depth discussion on how to ensure people are aware of the various ways to access support. It was agreed that all members of the food poverty sub-group, who wished to, would become referrers to the NG11 Foodbank. There were some really interesting ideas discussed and some real innovative projects that could be developed by the partners.

Employment

The employment subgroup is chaired by The Bridges Community Trust as a link between this group and the larger ESAP meetings that take place. It was agreed that Area 7 needed to ensure the right information was provided as the area is very diverse and what support may be needed in one area may not be needed in another. We felt that taking a hyperlocal approach would be more beneficial. We are looking at what sort of support is needed and how that can be tied into work already taking place through the NCH tenant academy or work with large scale developers to encourage hiring local.

Conclusion

The partnership hub has only been in existence since late November but the relationships between the groups already in place in Area 7 is strong, and the desire to improve the area they live and work is amazing. We are working to improve membership from groups and areas that don't attend and are positive about the future. It has been wonderful to see groups and individuals support each other – using their strengths to help and challenge each other, and while this happened before the partnership, the partnership has brought together some groups that

haven't previously crossed over. Thank you to everyone involved, and if you would like to become involved, please get in touch.