**Local Community Partnerships, Croydon Central East**

**Meeting Notes – 2 November 2023**

Dear Croydon Central East Colleagues,

Thanks to all partners and residents for their input and commitment into the Community Partnership in Croydon Central East. Many thanks to our welcoming hosts at

[Woodside Baptist Church (woodsidechurch.org.uk)](https://woodsidechurch.org.uk/). Our Co-Chairs, Lynda Graham and Celestina Oniye-Thomas

[New Co-Chairs for the Local Community Partnership in Croydon Central East (mailchi.mp)](https://mailchi.mp/cvalive.org.uk/meetnewcochairslcpcroydoncentraleast-1159655) welcomed all and we discussed joining up our activities so that we can support one another to reach further.

**Connecting:**

Central East locality webpages Find out 'What's On?' (activities/events in Croydon Central East) notes from previous events and your Community Plan:

[Local Community Partnerships - Croydon Voluntary Action (cvalive.org.uk)](https://cvalive.org.uk/empowering-the-community/networks/local-community-partnerships/)

[Simply Connect Croydon - connecting you to your local community services](https://croydon.simplyconnect.uk/activities?post_code=Croydon&page=1&limit=20&sort=) - brings together information on activities and services across Croydon. There are currently 929 activities by 807 organisations. If you want to list your activities and/or services, free of charge, please[register](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=i9wEh43LkkWuUb66zissjxbd6yjvd-BNtAGY3IPHZtlUQktEWkFFRU0yREwyRUE5WUFBTUFQWk1MRSQlQCN0PWcu) and once you have submitted your form, a volunteer will upload your information to the website. Contact Karen.Chillman@cvalive.org.uk.

Alongside local residents passionate and active about the key issues of Special Educational Needs (SEN) families and support for people in care homes, we heard from groups incl:

* Sexual Health, working from the Community Hub we saw 22 people who wouldn't have come to the service otherwise, contact [Kerry.addison3nhs.net](http://kerry.addison3nhs.net/)
* St Christopher's on end of life conversations and working with partners such as Reaching Higher and Lives Not Knifes, contact J.Whiteley@StChristophers.org.uk
* Asian Resource Centre Croydon's Community Facilitator, contact
* Mariah.Alam@arccltd.com and CORE20Connector, contactShammee.Hoque@arrccltd.com
* Healthy Homes, contact Malcolm.Bell@croydon.gov.uk and Deborah.dokubo@croydon.gov.uk
* Age UK Croydon, Personal Independance Coordinator, kaytie.griffiths@ageukcroydon.org.ukand christina.smith@ageukcroydon.org.uk
* Addiscombe Neighbourhood Care Association, contact Norman Till, info@anca.org.uk
* Radfield Home Care, contact Devendra.patel@radfieldhomecare.co.uk
* Croydon Neighbourhood Care, contact amanda@cnca.org.uk
* Clear Community Web, Community Builder in Croydon North West, founder of Norwood Junk Action, contact Norman@clearcommunityweb.co.uk, caspar@clearcommunityweb.co.uk and eve@clearcommunityweb.co.uk
* MHA, accessible woodland garden based in Shirley, contact lucy.james@mha.org.uk
* Healthwatch Croydon, contact jeet.sandhu@healthwatchcroydon.co.uk
* Chase, contact chairman@chaseresidents.org.uk
* Shirley Neighbourhood Care Association, Jonathan Baxter (Chair) passed on that Suzy has had to retire for health reasons and we sent her our thanks and warm wishes.
* KOOTH, online mental health support
* Parkhill Residents Association, trying to keep it going as most members in later life.
* Solid Rock, sessions at Philip Green Sports Centre
* Cordis Bright- research organisation evaluation Local Community Partnerships
* Croydon University Croydon Hospital (CUH) Darcy Fellow researching improvements in Proactive and Preventative Care (and reducing health inequalities) for people with LTCs
* Citizen's UK
* Cabinet Member for Finance, contact jason.cummings@croydon.gov.uk

**New Locality Commissioning Fund (LCF):**

In June 2023, Age UK Croydon (AUKC) and Croydon Voluntary Action (CVA) launched the LCF supported by Croydon Council and Croydon NHS through The Kings Fund 'Healthy Communities Together' programme. Applications were made by 46 lead local organisations for a total amount of £1.7 million. With available funding of only £300,000, many applications were not successful. The funding panel was made up of Local Community Partnerships Co-Chairs and representatives from AUKC and CVA, who considered each shortlisted bid against the criteria, incl:

1. Responding directly to one or more of the priorities identified in their Local Community Partnership’s Local Community Plan

2. Being co-produced, with the project beneficiaries being involved in a continuous process of design, delivery and performance measurement

3. Showing how they will maximise people’s independence and enable them to access support from the community and have better physical and mental health, wellbeing and overall quality of life

**Croydon Central East- Successful initiative:** **Croydon East Wellness Support Network (CrESNT)**Thelead VCO is Floating Counselling Support with est. partners including: Woodside Baptist Church, Well Being You, Clear Communication web, Holistic Wellbeing Hub, woodside pop in and Solar Elect . Please circulate the attached flyers within your community and direct them to our website for more information. [**www.floatingcousnelling.co.uk/events**](http://www.floatingcousnelling.co.uk/events)**.**

Update on partnership:

1. Woodside Pop-In **--at Woodside Baptist Church, Continuation Every Tuesday 10 am - 1 pm.**Warm spaces in winter for the elderly & support with Heat and eat -**Company - Woodside Community pop-in**

2. Woodside Hub **--at Woodside Baptist Church - Launch on 31st October 2023 - Flyer attached Every Tuesday 1:30 pm-3:30 pm Company Floating Counselling, Woodside pop-in, Clear Community Web,- Supported by Community Facilitator**

3. Mental health - 6-12 sessions per resident - Registration will be available on our website and at the weekly Woodside hub - **Company- Floating Counselling**

4. Transport -looking to join-up and expand local transport resources to connect residents to local opportunities, appointments and events - **Celestina & Lynda to look into this and support already given by Suzy**

5. Elderly community well-being **-- over 65+**at Ashburton Park Cafe 11 am - 1 pm,**Every 2nd Thursday of every Month, Launch 9th Novembe**r - **Flyer attached.**Space for elderly to socialise and look after their wellbeing - It also tackles heat and eat**- Company- WellbeingYou**

6. Male Mentoring: **over 21+**at Addiscombe Boys and Girls Club, Every Wednesday Launch on 1st November 8:30 pm -10 pm - **Flyer attached.**- To give men an in-person safe space to speak, be supported and signposted, snacks available

**Company - Holistic Wellbeing Hub (HWH) - ManDem Medley**

7. Heat and Eat**-**connecting with local residents to utilise existing schemes and food banks and identify ‘gaps’/support that is needed to reduce electricity -

**Company - Floating Counselling to create a physical flyer of all local food banks for residents**

**Continue weekly Thursday food bank in Woodside 4-5 pm Flyer attached.**

**Support Elect to support residents in the locality with savings on electricity - Sign up on our website and the weekly Hub - Flyer attached.**

**SAVE THE DATE- Showcase event!**

Following the recommendation of the funding panel, successful initiatives from across Croydon will be showcased at an event inBraithwaite Halls on **27 November, 10.00- 12.00.** The event will raise the profile of your partnership work and seek to gain further involvement in your initiatives. Commissioners, Councillors, LCP members etc will be attending. Please join us and hear about Croydon's new Localities Commissioning Model and its progressive, new community-led way of working.: To book your place go to CVA Eventbrite [One Croydon Local Community Partnerships Showcase Event](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/one-croydons-local-community-partnerships-showcase-event-tickets-732843944967?aff=oddtdtcreator)

**Woodside Community Hub** launched on Tuesday 31 November and will run every Tuesday from 13.30- 15.30 following the Pop In 10.00- 13.00. We heard from Shirley who is volunteering at both.

**Befriending**Lynda Graham reported that in her role as a Social Prescriber, the need for befrienders had even overtaken housing as the biggest issue. We discussed existing, stretched provision incl: Addiscombe Neighborhood Care Association, Croydon Neighbourhood Care Association, Age UK Croydon's Personal Independence Coordinators, St Christpher's 'Bereavement Buddies', Croydon Voluntary Action and Good Gym.

**Community updates:**

* Wellderlies, lunch meet ups in Ashburton Park, see attached 'Be Well for Winter' flier, why and how to use NHS app, GP tools etc.
* MHA event 17 & 18 November 5-7pm, [Lantern Festival Tickets, Fri 17 Nov 2023 at 17:00 | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lantern-festival-tickets-694001917417)
* Community Walk-about in Croydon North West, ['ABCD' Community Walk about in Croydon North West - Croydon Voluntary Action (cvalive.org.uk)](https://cvalive.org.uk/calendar/item/49521341)

To keep up to date with activity in Croydon's Voluntary and Community Sector, [**Subscribe**](http://cvalive.us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=2997e36d9b6764383e6a870fc&id=19ebc20bab) for free, to receive CVA news letters.

Thank you for bringing your experience and passion to input into our Local Community Plans. Save the date for our next event on **Wednesday 7 February 10.00- 12.30.**To book go to CVA Eventbrite page [Local Community Partnerships Croydon Central East](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/local-community-partnerships-croydon-central-east-tickets-765188739117?aff=oddtdtcreator)

Warmest Wishes- Lynda and Celestina

c/o Sarah Burns

Director of Communities

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