**Local Community Partnership, Croydon North East**

**4 October 2023 – Meeting Notes**

Dear Croydon North East Colleagues,

Thanks to all partners and residents for their passionate and valued input into the Community Partnership in Croydon Northeast. Many thanks to our hosts [The Phoenix Centre South Norwood - Search (bing.com)](https://www.bing.com/search?q=The+Phoenix+Centre+South+Norwood&FORM=AWRE&adlt=strict&toWww=1&redig=752228232AC042DCBCCB515D0BD2745F)

Our Co-Chairs, Magdalene Adenaike and Nicole Godetz, led a minute silence to remember Elianne Andam, the 15-year-old girl who was murdered on her way to school the previous week.

Our partnership meeting provided a space to come together on what can collectively be done to support our young people. We discussed the findings of our youth engagement survey and the new locality commissioning model.

**Voice of Young People- survey looking at issues and solutions**Our LCP Northeastsurvey was devised by this partnership to hear the voice of the young people in our locality. The engagement was through a visit, by our co-chairs, to St Joseph's Year 9 boys and through the wider LCP members, the summary analysis is attached.

Key discussion points included: Reaching Higher also conducted a youth survey and their results will be shared with this partnership. Important to have 'listening events' to build confidence to have a voice. It's often expressed that there's a lack of trust in police, but conversely young people often say they want to see more police, what's needed is space to build relationships.

We need policing that respects young people- not every young person carries a knife.

Managed moves can aggravate anti-social behaviour.

Using the copious amounts of reliable data, we can identify most of the perpetrators before they're even born!

Cllr Patsy Cummings- We all have a role to play as Councillors, police, schools, youth services- it's a village

Mentoring has to be long term, continuity is needed.

Cllr Karen Jewitt- Children are being sent to live here 'independently' from other boroughs. We forget they're here and they are vulnerable children.

Too much turnover of Police Officers- we can't build trusting relationships

What are the police doing to retain good Police Officers?

Police- engaging with young people with Cuppa with a Coppa, on the streets and through James Weston

**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 HCT 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 Northeast- Successful initiatives:**

Two projects were awarded funding in this locality and will be strengthening their partnership, we heard presentations from:

**Reaching Higher - After school activities 10–18-year-olds**. Partners include: Socco Cheta Community Hub. Weekly: youth cafe, leadership workshops, basketball club, youth club incl. free nutritional food at community venues

**His Grace Community Hub** - Partners include: other local VCOs, Reaching Higher, Food Hub distribution to other VCOs (as well as local residents). Increased support for young people includes: Safe Space Cafe, Chill Zone, strengthen advocacy, cost of living and healthy eating support within Community Hub

**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)

**Developing our priorities:**

*"Connection before correction"* Angelique, WalkwithMe

More prevention, intervention and support for young people and families is needed.

Trauma informed approach- we are firefighting, we need to move into prevention.

We need authentic representatives- not just the 'good' kids.

Mental health and well-being support is key- we need a Listening Assembly

Recognition for Centre's of Excellence such as Reaching Higher and His Grace to share good practice.

Map our amazing community organisations, make full use of [Simply Connect Croydon - connecting you to your local community](https://croydon.simplyconnect.uk/)

Create the space and continuity to build relationships- police- young people- community groups.

Stop and Search- Officers need training on how not to alienate, humility needed.

Thank you for bringing your experience and passion to input into our Local Community Plans. Save the date **Wednesday, 29 November**for our next meeting at St Andrew's Church in Thornton Heath. Book [**Here**](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/local-community-partnerships-croydon-north-east-tickets-603779690307?aff=oddtdtcreator.)

Warmest Wishes- Magdalene and Nicole

c/o Sarah Burns

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