**Local Community Partnership - Croydon North West**

**Meeting Notes 19 June 2023**

Dear Croydon North West Colleagues

It was wonderful to meet with you and hear from partners from Norbury, Pollards Hill, West Thornton Heath and Bensham Manor communities. A massive thank you to Cllr Kabir at Queens Community Centre for hosting our meeting, for more information about the venue, to hire and activities click [here.](http://queenscommunityhall.co.uk/)

Our partnership event was Chaired by Paul Voden, Janet Campbell and Andrew Slegg.

*Please find a record of our meeting below.*

**Locality Commissioning Model:**

Age UK Croydon in partnership with Croydon Voluntary Action as part of the Healthy Communities Together programme is shifting the approach to funding with the focus on prevention initiatives that directly impact those living with health inequalities in each locality. We launched this funding to maximise independence, create connections into community led support and through social engagement and interaction to have a positive impact on overall quality of life. We are aiming to achieve a local commissioning model that is fair, accessible and locally owned. Each bid must demonstrate the direct impact that their proposed work will have on the health of individual lives. Resulting in locally owned health initiatives that put the power and impact of health back into the hands of those most affected. We encourage action groups from each locality to apply for the funding to further the priorities identified in the local community partnership meetings. As long as one member of the action group is part of a constituted community group or grass roots organisation to hold the funding should your bid be successful, all are welcome to apply. Detailed guidance, application form and budget template are [uploaded here](https://cvalive.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2997e36d9b6764383e6a870fc&id=aae921ab85&e=3794b430c1). If you need support in your application, please contact Sarah.burns@cvalive.org.uk. The deadline for applications is **17th July 2023**.

**Community Spotlight Event – Centrale Shopping Centre 23rd June**

A local community partnership initiative to show case the many avenues of local partnership working including: activities, stalls, workshops, taster sessions and performances.

**Croydon Community Lottery.** An innovative approach to fundraising. Good causes register to raise funds through the lottery. For each ticket bought for one pound, 60% goes directly to that good cause and 20% goes to a central fund which devolves to more good causes. The remainder goes towards prizes. [Here](https://cvalive.org.uk/news/2022-news-items/croydon-community-lottery-gets/) for more information.

**Street Parties update**

Due to the success of street parties around the time of the coronation the Eden Project are still giving out free materials for street parties scheduled to be held in June. Neighbourhood Watch are joining this offer by covering the liability insurance for all street parties. For more information click [here.](https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/PLI)

**Public Space Protection Order.**

The Public Space Protection Order is underway which is positive in terms of protecting the public however, it does not currently include Thornton Heath Pond. The Local Community Partnership strongly feel this needs to change and can change. By clicking the link below members can go to question 12 and state that ‘*you disagree with the consultation for the public protection order because it doesn’t include Thornton Heath Pond and feel it needs to be included.’*

Have your say and let’s make sure the areas that need it most are included, and residents are protected as a [result.](https://www.croydon.gov.uk/community-and-safety/safety/crime-and-antisocial-behaviour/orders-and-injunctions/public-space-protection-orders)

**Trees for Croydon**

Trees for Croydon an initiative aimed at reimagining green spaces locally to benefit residents and families that don’t have gardens by implementing Trees and their aftercare. Details about the initiative can be found [here.](https://www.trees4croydon.com/)

You can support the funding of this project by walking, it’s very simple, miles walked unlock the funding that already exists. All you need to do is download the app **Atlas Go** wellbeing, put in the code t4c2023 and start or join a team and start logging your miles. There is no sponsorship requirement to join, just get moving for trees it’s that simple.

**One Croydon Community Hubs**

We are thankful that we have a number of successful One Croydon Community Hubs in place across all localities, with a view for more. [Family Hub in Field way](https://croydon.simplyconnect.uk/activities/12738380-4df4-11ea-bd77-db93356a2ad1/benefits-debt-rent-council-tax-advice-new-addington-fieldway), [Pathfinders](https://croydon.simplyconnect.uk/activities/e877d7d0-13da-11ed-a5dd-0940f6d66a4f/new-addington-pathfinders) in New Addington, [His Grace](https://www.neighbourly.com/project/5cae41c2c7ac890c3ca86b76) Community Hub and for this locality specifically [Brigstock Road Community Hub](https://www.southwestlondonics.org.uk/local-stories/supporting-croydon-residents-at-brigstock-roads-new-community-hub/) at Age UK Croydon every Monday between 10-1 opposite the Thornton Heath Library.

The Brigstock Road Community Hub has gained traction with 30-40 residents in regular attendance and many supporting services ready to connect and help. A survey will be running through the hub to capture where self-identified needs might be to tailor support specifically to local priorities identified by residents. Do come and support and see what it’s all about.

**Intergenerational Youth Worker**

The North East Local Community Partnership has decided that the best way to devolve funds to maximize impact for this locality would be to create and fund the full-time position of an ‘Intergenerational Youth Worker.’ This is a role that will support with local connections, with a view to address local priorities in an intergenerational way. We workshopped different core facets of this role to co-produce a job specification. We agreed:

        They must have a funding skill set/ background and a wide community spectrum

        They must create links with local priority areas

        Potentially take the stay and play model and adapt it to skill swap between the younger and older generation e.g. The older generation passing on cooking skills to the younger generation

        Explore business links that will invest into intergenerational work as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility to sustain the funding past 1 year

        Looking to tweak, adapt and upscale the model- a view to include young people who are not in education or training and deemed harder to reach

***How do we include mental health as a priority?***

       Change the name from mental health to health talks to break stigma

       Utilise, promote and train more Mental Health First Aiders and work with those within schools

        Link into existing community and faith groups to cover a wider reach

       Take culturally sensitive approaches to the subject of mental health

        Partner with organisations who are tackling depression affecting primary school children

***How do we include poverty as a priority?***

        Look and educate on the roots of poverty

        Give younger people more opportunities to belong, engage and develop

        Identify the gatekeepers, “those in community that have access to more niche communities that are not accessed by mainstream approaches”

        Spot the Fire Souls who have a passion to be involved and journey along with you in the change

        Practical skill swaps between the younger and older generations e.g. cooking

***How does poverty and the cost-of-living impact this work how can we include this in this role?***

      Food banks potentially being a pre-step to the community hubs

      Partnership with organisations or groups that focus on affordable, nutritious meals to educate the community on how to eat healthily on a budget

       Establish an inter-schools' network with a rep from each school to circulate important information such as; food banks, hygiene banks, household support funds and grants, and energy support for the winter months

      School uniform shoe and coat swaps to provide shoes and clothes that no longer fit your child to benefit another child- utilise class parents to action

      Connect with the PTAs and strengthen what they do

      Get ward councillor engagement

      Youth assembly- connecting young people and politics to capture the youth voice and put value on it especially from place-based institutions

      Community awards for community activists

      Piggyback on schools' community initiatives such as the Duke of Edinburgh award

**Other dates for your diary:**

Mental Health Support & Resources for Young People in Croydon, Online

**Thursday 13 July 2023 from 10:30 – 12:30**. Hear from local partners about what support services there are in the borough for Croydon’s Young People. To book:

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mental-health-support-resources-for-croydons-young-people-tickets-638197755667](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mental-health-support-resources-for-croydons-young-people-tickets-638197755667?aff=oddtdtcreator)

\*NEW WORKSHOP\* - ‘Discovering What’s Strong, not What’s Wrong - How to hold Effective Strengths-Based Approaches Conversations with Residents’**, next session is on Monday 17th July 2023 13:00 - 16:00**

Location: Croydon Voluntary Action (CVA) Resource Centre 82 London Rd Croydon CR0 2TB. To book - [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discovering-whats-strong-not-whats-wrong-tickets-638106552877](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discovering-whats-strong-not-whats-wrong-tickets-638106552877%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

Some fascinating and innovative ideas to have direct impact on local priorities, we look forward to the update on this at our next meeting for this locality **Wednesday 13th September.**

Thank you all for attending, do bring friends that live in the area this is a space for the resident voice to really shine. We look forward to seeing the progress and sharing updates when we next meet.

Warm wishes Paul, Janet and Andrew

With thanks to Chloe for our notes

c/o Sarah Burns

Director of Communities

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CVA Resource Centre

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