

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No

meeting date: 13 MARCH 2012
title: GENERAL REPORT
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1 PURPOSE

To inform members of work on flood-risk reduction, and of the renewed funding and continuing work of the Healthy Lifestyles team, and the Community Sports Facilitator.

2 FLOOD-RISK REDUCTION WORKS

Badger Wells Water, Sabden, and May Terrace Surface Water Culvert, Billington

Works to reduce the risk of flooding of properties and highway have commenced on two longstanding areas of concern, namely the reconstruction of a collapsed culvert at Badger Wells Water Sabden, and the replacement of a defective screen on the entrance to a surface water culvert at May Terrace, Billington.

Ribble Valley Borough Council has undertaken and funded the planning and design works for schemes, and Lancashire County Council is funding the construction works. The mutually beneficial arrangements for these works have been arranged as part of the new "Making Space for Water" meetings, which were initiated as a result of new responsibilities arising out of the Floods and Water Management Act 2010.

Badger Wells Water

The programme of works for Badger Wells Water is split over two financial years. The works to the end of March 2012 will see the reconstruction of a length of collapsed culvert and the stabilisation of the portal, or entrance, to the remaining section of the original culvert. Works in the forthcoming financial year will include the removal of the debris that has been washed downstream towards the culvert during storm conditions. The two sections of work are programmed to be contiguous. The recently imposed temporary restrictions on highway usage through Sabden are not related to this work.

May Terrace

The works are to replace the screen across the inlet to the surface water culvert that runs alongside May Terrace, Billington. As the landowner, it is the Council's responsibility to regularly remove the debris that accumulates on the screen, so that the flow is not obstructed. The design of the new screen is such that it is safer and easier to clear the accumulated debris. The works will be completed by the end of March.

3 HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

RVBC Healthy Lifestyle Team sits within Community Services and is commissioned by NHS East Lancashire to manage a number of projects. Total funding amounts to just over £91,000.

Funding is renewed on an annual basis, and we have received confirmation that our contract has been extended for a further year, until the end of March 2013.

There have been several changes to our contract relating to delivery of our services. The one that has had the biggest impact has been a shift from GP referral to self-referral on our community weight management programme, 'Weigh-2-Go!' This means that clients who fit the essential criteria are able to refer themselves onto the programme, rather than having to go through their GP or Practice Nurse. This change has broken down a major barrier to access, and the number of clients coming through the service has more than doubled.

The NHS has also funded training for pre and post natal exercise, with a pre-requisite that sessions will be delivered in Ribble Valley. This will be taking place very shortly, and sessions should be up and running by summer.

4 CONTINUATION OF COMMUNITY SPORTS FACILITATOR POST

Officers were successful in securing funding for the continuation of the Community Sports Facilitator post. The key elements of this work include;

- **Ribble Valley Sports Club** which alternates week to week between Clitheroe and Longridge every Friday Night. The club directly targets young people 12-17years 'hanging around' the streets and engages them in positive activity, such as dodgeball, kabaddi, or speedminton, along with many others. The emphasis on all participating is teamwork, fair play, fun, and ultimately - RESPECT. Ribble Valley is run to give young people a positive alternative to crime, anti-social behaviour, and substance misuse.
- **Late Night Football Leagues** also run on a Friday evening, normally after Sports Club. The purpose and the way the sessions are run are exactly the same as Sports Club, although they feature solely on Football and offer a competitive opportunity. The Late Night Football Leagues are kindly sponsored by Ribble Valley Homes. All Sports Club activities are FREE, so there are no barriers to participation.

In addition to this, additional funding was secured through LDAAT (Lancashire Drug and Alcohol Action Team) to enhance the offer in the Castle Grounds:

- **An Additional Youth Club Night** - through positive partnership working and the funding to have a dedicated night at Clitheroe Youth Centre to offer positive sporting, entertainment, and social skills.
- **Drop-in Centre** - Utilising the remodeled changing rooms at the bowling green café as a fantastic venue to speak to young people in the evenings about substance misuse and alcohol.
- **Stay safe** - A cross-partnership initiative aimed at young people being safe at night.
- **Family Intervention** - working with hard-to-reach families with drug or alcohol issues.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE notes the contents of the report.

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