

Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item No.
Lead Member for Rural East, Councillor Lady Dulcie Atkins and Corporate Director of Resources, Philippa Davies	Council	28 November 2013	16

<p><b>SHAPING YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD: RURAL EAST PERFORMANCE REPORT</b></p>
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**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide a performance report which shows progress updates against the priorities and issues in the Rural East locality Plan, including projects funded through Shaping Your Neighbourhood.

**2. Outcomes**

- 2.1 Issues and priorities identified and addressed at a neighbourhood level.
- 2.2 Effective delivery of projects funded through the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.
- 2.3 Better engagement with our residents and communities.

**3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 That the performance report for Rural East be noted.

**4. Background**

- 4.1 As agreed in the Shaping Your Neighbourhood report, presented to Council on 26 April 2012, regular performance updates would be provided to Council to highlight progress against the delivery of the Locality Plans. The first performance update, covering the period from October 2012 to March 2013, was presented at the Council meeting on 6 June 2013.

## 5. Key Issues and Proposals

- 5.1 The performance report, covering the period from April to September 2013, is attached at Appendix One.

<b>FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
Finance	Spend against the Performance Reward Grant (PRG) is set out in the Appendix.
Legal	There are no legal implications.

### **OTHER RISKS/IMPLICATIONS: CHECKLIST**

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

<b>Implications</b>	<b>✓ / x</b>
Community Safety	X
Equality and Diversity	X
Sustainability	X
Health and Safety	X

<b>Risks/Implications</b>	<b>✓ / x</b>
Asset Management	X
Climate Change	X
Data Protection	X

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<b>List of Background Papers:</b>		
<b>Name of Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Where available for inspection</b>

### **LIST OF APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Rural East Performance Report – September 2013.

This appendix can be viewed in colour on the Council's web-site and an A3 size colour printed version can be obtained on request from Democratic Services (Tel: 01253 887481).

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Key:

G = On schedule

A = Minor issues

R = Major issues

B = Complete

**Introduction**

This is the six monthly performance update for **Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Rural East**. Rural East is an extensive rural area, covering the eastern area of Wyre and comprising of a collection of villages and the larger market town of Garstang. It covers the wards of Brock, Cabus, Calder, Catterall, Garstang and Wyresdale.

This report shows performance up to **September 2013** and provides updates against Rural East Locality Plan, including projects funded through Shaping Your Neighbourhood.

**Funded Community Projects - Overview**

Project name	Related Key priority	Status
<b>Barnacre Memorial Hall Refurbishment</b> Application submitted to Lancashire Environmental Fund for match funding of £30,000 (decision expected in December). Planning permission approved for extension to Memorial Hall.	Meeting Places	<b>A</b>
<b>Garstang Gym Extension</b> The car park and extension are complete. Fundraising is currently taking place for seating and equipment. Official opening takes place in early December.	Health	<b>B</b>
<b>Garstang and Scorton Link Way</b> Match funding has been applied for to extend the project and a decision is expected in December. The project is expected to be delivered by the end of the financial year.	Health	<b>A</b>
<b>Lancaster Canal Tow Path</b> Work ongoing. Project expected to be completed by the end of the financial year.	Health	<b>A</b>
<b>Kepple Lane Park Development</b> Funding to deliver a Fitness Trail at Kepple Lane Park was approved on 31 July 2013. Application submitted to Lancashire Environmental Fund for match funding, with works delayed until next financial year for a decision from LEF.	Open Spaces/ Rural Isolation/ Health	<b>A</b>

**Overview of Resources**

Funded Project	Funding Allocated (£)	Total Spend (30.09.13) (£)
Barnacre Memorial Hall Refurbishment	15,000	0
Garstang Gym Extension	10,000	10,000
Garstang and Scorton Link Way	20,000	0
Lancaster Canal Tow Path	10,000	0
Kepple Lane Park Development	15,000	0

**Locality Plan Priorities**

Progress Update	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Rural Isolation</b> The Council is one of only 32 local authority areas to be invited to bid for Big Lottery Funding to tackle social isolation in older people. We have now identified Community Foundation for Lancashire, as our Lead Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) organisation who will work closely with Wyre Together to take the Wyre bid forward. A vision and strategy will need to be developed by April 2014.</li> </ul>	<b>G</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Fuel Poverty</b> The community energy switching scheme, People Power, had 163 people switching over to cheaper tariffs in Wyre. This was the highest District figure in Lancashire. Together with the Lancashire authorities, we are currently evaluating running a further People Power collective energy switch, after Christmas.  An evaluation of last year's affordable warmth initiatives has been used as the basis for discussions with Public Health to identify funding for winter warmth initiatives across Lancashire.</li> </ul>	<b>G</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Housing</b> The issue of housing needs for elderly in rural areas will be considered as part of the Local Plan process. Jointly with Fylde and Blackpool, we have commissioned consultants to look at the Strategic Housing Market Assessment to identify housing needs across the Borough to inform the Local Plan. A draft report will be available in November.  Acresfield residential Caravan Park, near Garstang, has applied to relax the conditions of sale for a short period to allow buyers from a wider area.</li> </ul>	<b>A</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Flooding</b> LCC are progressing a number of actions around flood investigation and mitigation projects. However, there continues to be no recent flooding in Rural East. Flood risk continues to be a material consideration for any development proposed.</li> </ul>	<b>G</b>

**Locality Plan Priorities (cont'd)**

Progress Update	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Health</b> We are working with Public Health colleagues to utilise JSNA data. Fylde and Wyre Health and Well-being Partnership is currently evaluating local health needs data to determine long-term health needs, in particular issues for an ageing population. Work is ongoing with Fylde and Wyre Health and Well-being Partnership about how best to address health inequalities across Wyre.</li> </ul>	<b>G</b>
<p>Approval was given to use funds from the Council's 2013/14 Capital Budget to undertake refurbishment to the Skate Park in Garstang. Work is due to start in November.</p> <p>The refurbishment of the gym at Garstang Leisure Centre has been completed and is open for use.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Lack of Amenities (shops)</b> The proposed Local Plan includes provision for some housing and employment growth in Catterall, which could stimulate further growth with an increase in the number of shops. This will be informed by the Joint Strategic Housing Market Assessment.</li> </ul>	<b>A</b>

**Other Key Activity in Rural East**

The Friends of Garstang Walking Festival, with Wyre Council's support, have organised a series of autumn walks to explore Wyre's rivers. The first took place on Sunday 29 September near Bleasdale.