

Report of:	Meeting	Date	Item No.
Lead Member for Rural East, Councillor Lady Dulcie Atkins and the Corporate Director of Resources, Philippa Davies	Council	5 June 2014	13

**SHAPING YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD:
RURAL EAST PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update Council on the issues and priorities in the Rural East Locality Plan, including progress on the community projects funded through the Shaping Your Neighbourhood initiative.

2. Background

- 4.1 The Shaping Your Neighbourhood Approach was approved by the Council on 26 April 2012. It was agreed at that time that regular performance updates would be provided to Council to highlight progress against the delivery of the Locality Plans for each of the Neighbourhoods. The last performance updates were submitted to the Council meeting on 28 November 2013.

3. Key Issues

- 5.1 The performance report, covering the period from October 2013 to May 2014, is attached at Appendix 1.

4. Comments and Questions

- 4.1 Members of Council are invited to make comments or ask me questions on the contents of this report.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Shaping Your Neighbourhood: Rural East Performance Report – May 2014.

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 **May 2014** 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
Barnacre Memorial Hall Refurbishment Application to Lancashire Environmental Fund for £30,000 was successful, with required enrolment as an Environmental Body with ENTRUST. Work started in April and is expected to finish by end of June. A grand opening is planned for 29 June.	Meeting Places	G
Garstang Gym Extension Official opening of Garstang School of Gymnastics' extended club facilities took place on 8 December.	Health	B
East Bank Project (formerly Garstang and Scorton Link Way) Proffitts, working on behalf of Garstang Millennium Green Trust, has produced an initial ramp design and work details for footbridge across river. This is being consulted on and permissions sought from United Utilities, the Environment Agency and BT. Following permissions and advice, tendering will start, with an anticipated start date at end of summer (approx. 6 – 8 weeks on site). Planning application for container to be determined by end of May.	Health	R
Lancaster Canal Tow Path Access improved along towpath from Myerscough Hall Drive to A6, with SYN funding. Wider scheme of improvements ongoing.	Health	A
Kepple Lane Park Development The project has raised additional funding (£4,000), with £8,000 in pending applications (decisions expected by end of July). Application to Awards for All for £10,000 was unsuccessful, but the Lancashire Environmental Fund application for £30,000 was successful (awaiting confirmation from ENTRUST - expected by end of May). Meetings were held with trim trail and path installers early May, with installation planned for July.	Open Spaces/ Rural Isolation/ Health	A

Overview of Resources		
Funded Project	Funding Allocated (£)	Total Spend (30.04.14) (£)
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	10,000
Kepple Lane Park Development	15,000	0

Locality Plan Priorities	
Progress Update	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural Isolation <p>Wyre was one of only 100 local authority areas invited to bid for Big Lottery Funding to tackle social isolation in older people and is now down to the last 32. A core partnership led by Community Foundation for Lancashire has been formed and this partnership has been progressing the next stage of the bidding process. A Vision and Strategy has now been submitted to Big Lottery under the project title of WELL – Wyre Embraces Later Life. The outcome of this bid is expected by end of July 2014.</p>	G
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fuel Poverty <p>Together with other Lancashire authorities, Wyre ran another collective energy switching scheme, a smaller scheme than the previous one. Currently awaiting the results.</p> <p>As part of work on Affordable warmth in winter 2013/14, Wyre worked with Groundwork to target the fuel poor. A post has been funded until next winter to work on fuel poverty. Over £92,000 (for Fylde and Wyre) from Public Health (Lancashire County Council) and £40,000 from the Clinical Commissioning Group has been invested for affordable warmth, with Care and Repair co-ordinating work.</p> <p>Also, working with LESS (Local & Effective Sustainable Solutions) and Directors of Public Health in Lancashire to map areas where there are high levels of fuel poverty.</p>	G
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing <p>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, a Strategic Housing Market Assessment has been completed to identify housing needs across the Borough to inform the Local Plan.</p> <p>Application to relax the conditions of sale at Acresfield residential Caravan Park, near Garstang, for a short period to allow buyers from a wider area has been granted.</p>	A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding <p>There continues to be no recent flooding in Rural East. Lancashire Flood Risk Strategy approved, following consultation in January/ February. Flood Forums have met on a number of occasions and made good links with communities and key partners including Environment Agency, Lancashire County Council, United Utilities and Natural England.</p>	G
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health <p>The council is engaging with the Clinical Commissioning Group in the development of their Health and Care Vision.</p> <p>The contractor for the refurbishment of the Skate Park in Garstang is being contracted in May with the design developed in June and construction from July to August.</p> <p>Garstang Leisure Centre received an increase of £50,000 to bring the capital budget to £300,000 for 2014/15, following the increased usage after last year's investment.</p>	G

Locality Plan Priorities (cont'd)	
Progress Update	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of Amenities (shops) <p>Wyre Council was the sole winner of a National competition, 'Revive and Thrive', which resulted in £191,000 funding for business support, consultancy and advice, for the four town centres (Cleveleys, Poulton, Fleetwood and Garstang).</p>	A

Other Key Activity in Rural East

The annual Garstang Victorian Christmas festival took place on Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 December.

Wyre Council has secured funding from Sport England, working in partnership with Myerscough College and England Handball, to establish a new community handball club in Garstang, the first of its kind in Lancashire.

Over £25,000 funding has been allocated, from a development off Garstang Road, Bowgreave, to Catterall Playing Fields to improve public open space.

The 2014 11th anniversary Walking Festival, organised by Wyre Council and the Friends of Garstang Walking Festival, took place from Saturday 10 – Sunday 18 May.

A Garstang Facebook page has been set up for residents.

New funding announced for community projects - £10,000 available for Rural East – deadline for bids end of May 2014.



Garstang School of Gymnastics