

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES**

**30 September 2014**

**Report of the Strategic Director, Health and Communities**

**BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN GENERATIONS –  
IDEAS INTO PRACTICE**

**1 Purpose of Report:**

To inform on the progress with the 'Bridging the Gap Between Generations – Ideas into Practice' project (previously known as 'Bridging the Gap Intergenerational Project') and request approval of £5,000 funding to further support the project in 2014/15.

**2 Information and Analysis:**

An intergenerational project has been delivered in Derbyshire since December 2005. It aims to improve relationships between the generations by involving both young and old in activities together, thus helping to reduce fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, criminal damage and calls for service.

The project continues to build on good practice from the intergenerational activities previously delivered and is managed through the Derbyshire Intergenerational Strategy Steering Group (DIgSS). Group membership is currently made up of representatives from Adult Care, Children and Younger Adults, Health and Communities and the Countryside Service, representatives of other organisations are invited and attend as required e.g. the voluntary sector.

An officer is employed to co-ordinate the project and works as part of the Adult Care Prevention Team. The post is funded by Adult Care to work with a range of partners including local community groups, care homes, 50+ Forums, schools, Probation and the Youth Offending Pre-Court Team. The Steering Group ensures that some projects are targeted towards community safety priorities including young people with different behavioural needs and projects located in areas around the County.

During 2012/13, 17 new projects were set up in a variety of locations across Derbyshire and involved over 600 participants, with 10 of these projects continuing with intergenerational activity after the initial activity

ended. During 2013/14 again 15 new projects were set up with over 1,100 participants, with nine of these continuing with intergenerational work after the activity had ended. For example: a Countryside Service Project in which younger offenders on Probation Community Service Orders joined with members of Chesterfield 50+ Forum to make bird boxes and planters to be sited at Countryside sites. The Kirk Hallam lake and meadows area which had been subject to vandalism is now a much improved site following work between young people from the local school and the Friends Group to create wild flower meadows, fishing platforms and wildlife ponds.

The evaluations highlighted outcomes for older and younger people after their involvement in the project, which included:

- Changed perceptions of older people in relation to younger people and vice versa, they no longer saw them as a threat and are much more positive
- Increased involvement in their wider communities
- Feeling valued as individuals irrespective of age
- More confidence in expressing their own views

It is planned to deliver a minimum of ten new projects during 2014/15. Community safety funding will contribute to five of these new projects and these will contribute to community safety priorities. £5,000 community safety funding is requested to support the continued delivery of this project into 2014/15. A funding contribution also comes from Adult Care for projects and funding for the Intergenerational Practice Officer post.

### **3 Other Considerations:**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity; and environmental, health, human resources, property and transport considerations.

### **4 Background Papers:**

Bridging the gap between generations 'Ideas into Practice' 2011/12.

### **5 Key Decision:**

No

**6 Call-in:**

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?  
No

**7 Officer's Recommendation:**

That £5,000 be approved to support the continued delivery of the Bridging the Gap between Generations Project involving both young and old in activities to help reduce fear of crime and improve relationships between the generations.

**David Lowe  
Strategic Director  
Health and Communities**