

Report to:

Council

Agenda
Item

10(b)(v)

Meeting Date: 28 April 2015

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Jessica Riddle**

Community Centres

The community centre business planning process has come to a close and all of the business plans have been reviewed. Individual feedback has been given to each of the centre managers and trustees. A new service level agreement has been drafted and has been sent out for consultation.

Community Centre Promotion Day

On Wednesday 1st April a number of Community Centres (Botcherby, Harraby, Currock, Denton Holme, Greystone, Yewdale and Petteril Bank) with the support of the City Council joined forces to offer a free event to members of the public. The aim of the event was to raise awareness of what each centre has to offer, increase visitors numbers to the centre, showcase the work of the centre's and identify future activities through face to face consultation.

Over 200 bags (including centre information and promotional goodies) were handed out to members of the public but due to the extreme weather a number of the family activities had to be cancelled. Another promotion day has been scheduled for the 4th July.

Multi-Agency Problem Solving Groups

The Multi-Agency Problem Solving Group met on Wednesday 22nd April, at Riverside offices. Members are welcome to attend the PSG to raise issues or alternatively, if members are aware of any issues or concerns regarding anti-social behaviour in their wards the information can be passed directly to Ruth Crane, Community Development Officer who will ensure the information is passed to the group for discussion.

Community Right to Bid

The Council has added two successful nominations to the Community Asset Register, the Co-operative Store in Hallbankgate, and the Centurion Inn in Walton. In the event of the asset being put up for sale, this gives community groups the opportunity to raise funds and bid for the property. The Co-operative Store, Hallbankgate is currently up for sale and a community group has expressed an interest in bidding for the asset.

Customer Services

At the beginning of March the main Council Tax bills were sent to households in the Carlisle City Council area. Since then an extra 1,180 residents have signed up to receive their Council Tax bills online. In the last year almost 900 extra residents have elected to pay their Council Tax by direct debit. The majority of these have completed their direct debit online.

Carlisle City Council has also added to the services that residents can access online. From 1st April 2015 customers have been able to order a waste bin, book an assisted waste collection, report a missed waste collection, order an additional waste container and book a special collection – all online.

Food Carlisle

Food Carlisle continues to advance a number of projects such as the Local Health Options award and Fair Meals Direct. Additionally a piece of research with the university is exploring local food and businesses within a 50 mile radius of the city in order to understand food businesses, independents and local food production and provision. Details are available at

www.carlisle.gov.uk/foodcarlisle and we would encourage any producers, processors, food businesses and caterers who are within a 50 mile radius of the city to complete this.

Healthy Cities

Carlisle has one of the healthiest high streets in the country, according to a new study and highlights the positive partnership and healthy city work taking place. The Royal Society for Public Health assessed 70 places according to the types of businesses found there. Loan shops, bookmakers, tanning salons and fast food outlets all contributed to a low score, while leisure centres, libraries and health services were seen to have a positive impact on public health. Carlisle ranked 6th in the study and re-emphasises the importance of the consideration of the wider determinants of health. Continuing work with economic development ensures that the above are considered within the local plan, which features a subsection on health.