



Report to

Council

Meeting Date: 9th November 2021

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Elizabeth Mallinson**

CUSTOMER SERVICES

Customer Services fully reopened to the public on 30th September. We have seen a steady increase in footfall and have served 174 customers face-to-face from 30th September to 13th October. We have also returned to the office full time and switched back to our normal phone system from our temporary phone system. Emails also remain higher than pre-Covid levels with an additional 200 per week, along with an increase in web interactions of 100 per week.

REGULATORY SERVICES

Homelife are continuing to promote the Hospital Discharge Grants to health and social care professionals during the current crisis at our hospitals, to ensure that they can assist with helping residents be discharged from hospital as quickly as possible. Popular measures include supply and fit of key-safes which allow carers to securely access homes (key-safes can usually be fitted within 24 hours from referral); one-off deep-cleans; gas safety and heating repairs and furniture moving to allow equipment such as specialised beds be put downstairs. Grants can be given for any housing measures relating to the home environment that may be delaying discharge from hospital. Hospital Discharge Grants Are not means-tested, and all housing tenures are eligible.

HEALTHY CITY TEAM

Active Spaces

- Work to install two new items of play equipment and surfacing has recently been completed at Chances Park to a value of £45,000. The new steel items, a zip wire and large climbing unit, have replaced previous timber equipment which had reached the end of its life. The surfacing under the zip wire has also been upgraded from grass to rubber

Food Carlisle

- On the run up to COP26 (United Nations Climate Change Conference), Food Carlisle hosted a Low Carbon Lunch for its partners and network members which was organised to coincide with the national Sustainable Food Places Day of Celebration and Action on Wednesday, 29th September. Food served was all locally procured or rescued from going to landfill. A low carbon lunch includes mostly plants, with meat, fish, and dairy from sustainable sources with high animal welfare and sourced in ways that result in healthier and prosperous communities was served to Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Members after their last meeting.

Welcome to your City

- 'Welcome to your City' is an initiative which aims to engage with community groups and individuals who usually don't feel confident enough or welcome to use local facilities and socialise in society

The initiative started with Carlisle United who invited a group of 20 people to have a 'match day experience' which included a tour of the grounds, taking part in some sport, having lunch and then attending the match. Every home game this season will have a group attending. Groups have been made up of Refugees, Young carers, The Mosque, Carlisle People First and many more.

The Old Fire Station is about to begin its own 'Welcome to your City' experience. The intention being that groups can either attend shows or host their own events working with the Community Federation and other partners to offer the community advice and sign posting around 'winter warmth resilience' and isolation. There are already events organised for Longtown, Brampton & Botcherby.

Walking for Health

- The new walking for health programme started on Wednesday, 13th October with a morning and afternoon walk around Bitts Park, with 27 people attending the morning walk and 12 people attending the afternoon walk. The current programme includes walks in the City Centre, Dalston and Longtown and runs to the end of March 2022. The volunteer led Tuesday Trundles are continuing with a new programme of walks held fortnightly throughout October and November. 12 people are to attend the walk on Tuesday, 19th October at Talkin Head

Volunteering

- We have been working with the Get Cumbria Buzzing Project Officer within the Cumbria Wildlife Trust, to develop a wildflower planting session at the Swifts site for young people from MENCAP on 28th September. Members of the Healthy City Team have also been working with the Organisational Development Team to develop a wildflower planting session for City Council staff which took place the Swifts site on 13th October, as part of the Council's events for World Mental Health Day

ARMED FORCES BILL 2021

The primary purpose of the Armed Forces Bill 2021 is to renew the Armed Forces Act 2006 (itself renewed by the Armed Forces Acts of 2011 and 2016). The Bill requires specified public bodies to have due regard to the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant in the areas of housing, education and healthcare.

The Armed Forces Bill has reached the Committee stage in the House of Lords, with a line by line examination of the Bill scheduled to begin on 27th October 2021. Cumbria Armed Forces Covenant Partnership recognises that the Bill will be a significant influence on public bodies in the future. Members of the Partnership have highlighted that, as it will be a statutory duty, it needs to be on the Local Government Reorganisation agenda.

Remembrance Sunday

A wreath laying ceremony will take place at 11.00 a.m., 14th November in Carlisle City Centre on Remembrance Sunday. Prior to the ceremony, a service will be held at Carlisle Cathedral.

Carlisle and Eden Forces Link Project

Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service continue to deliver this project. A new co-ordinator, Lucy Lamb, has been appointed to take over running the project. The previous co-ordinator, Richie Hinson, has left this post but will remain involved in its work.

The Forces Link will be set up as a North Cumbria based social enterprise to help secure the long-term sustainability of the project, and the prospect for it to grow further. The project continues to seek opportunities to link up with people locally, developing mental health support and setting up a training package, which will be available to local employers to support them in offering employment opportunities to veterans.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO)CARLISLE HEALTH FORUM.

The Carlisle Health Forum met on 22nd October 2021 and the follow were on the agenda:-

- Current Situation update on COVID in our District
- Public Health alliance and update on this Committee was given
- Thriving Communities presentation and the way forward after the results of the Morton and Brampton pilots were collated
- Presentation on Health Equity Commission following on from the Marmot Review
- Social Enterprise City – should the City become one