

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
CRAMLINGTON, BEDLINGTON AND SEATON VALLEY LOCAL AREA
COMMITTEE

At the meeting of the **Cramlington, Bedlington and Seaton Valley Local Area Committee** held at Seaton Sluice Community Centre, Albert Road, Seaton Sluice, NE26 4QX on Wednesday 20 September 2023 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT

M Swinburn (Chair)

MEMBERS

L Bowman
E Chicken
W Daley
C Dunbar
P Ezhilchelvan

D Ferguson
S Lee
M Robinson
C Taylor
R Wilczek

OFFICERS

H Bowers
J Hedley

Democratic Services Officer
Family Help Locality Manager

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Inspector J Caisley
Acting Inspector P Davis

Neighbourhood Policing,
Cramlington and Seaton Valley area
Neighbourhood Policing, Bedlington
area
Youth Co-ordinator, Cramlington
Town Council

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Flux.

23. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cramlington, Bedlington & Seaton Valley Local Area Committee held on Wednesday, 23 August 2023 as circulated, be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

24. DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillors Daley, Dunbar, Ezhilchelvan, Lee and Swinburn declared an interest in agenda item 8 as they were members of Cramlington Town Council.

The Chair informed members of a change in the order of the agenda.

25. ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A presentation was shared on anti-social behaviour in the Cramlington area. Inspector Jonathan Caisley provided the following information:

- 418 incidents of ASB had been reported in Cramlington in the past 12 months, equating to 8 reports per week.
- Motorcycle ASB had resulted in 265 calls to the Police in the past 12 months, equating to 5 reports per week.
- The main issue in Cramlington were people under the age of 18, causing ASB between 5 pm and 10 pm.
- Areas in ASB had changed from Brockwell to Manor Walks particularly Sainsburys entrance.
- Additional funding had been successful through the Violence Reduction Unit to pay for high visibility patrols in the hotspot areas of Cramlington.
- 17 young offenders had been referred to the Youth Justice Service 'Turnaround' scheme.
- 52 ASB letters had been sent to parents of young people involved in ASB and follow up visits conducted.
- 28 arrests of young people had committed crime in Cramlington; 2 Youth Injunctions were in the process of being applied for and 76 dispersal orders had been authorised to date.

In response to questions from members, the following information was provided:

- Police relied on community intelligence for any offences or crimes taking place.
- As well as funding from the Police & Crime Commission, the Violence Reduction Unit also received funding from the Home Office.
- A new NPT model helped the uplift in Neighbourhood Police Officers.
- If parents were unaware that children were involved in anti-social behaviour, once informed the issue was usually resolved. Repeat offenders distorted figures.

Acting Inspector Paul Davis continued with information in the Bedlington area:

- 118 incidents of ASB had been reported in Bedlington in the past 12 months.
- Motorcycle ASB had resulted in 173 calls within the last 12 months.
- Hotspots on the heatmap showed Bedlington and Bedlington Station.
- Section 59 warnings had been issued with one motorcycle being seized.
- CCTV covered Bedlington Station which had allowed officers to identify perpetrators and complete home visits in partnership with the Community Safety Team and Bernicia where applicable.
- 25 ASB letters had been sent to parents of young people involved in ASB.
- Follow up visits were conducted in conjunction with housing providers to discuss ASB and the impacts behaviour could have on tenancies.
- 1 Youth Injunction was in the process of being applied for.

In response to questions, the following information was provided:

- A private landlord would be contacted if a tenant was involved in ASB, but usually they were not interested.
- Again, if there were any incidents of ASB, the police relied on community intelligence.
- Following an incident of ASB, Police Officers would contact the Community Safety Team and if offending was persistent, a Community Order would be issued.

The Police Officers were thanked for their presentations.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

26. PETITIONS

No petitions had been received; there were no reports or updates to consider.

27. FAMILY HUB OFFER

Jean Hedley, Family Help Coordination Manager, shared a presentation which outlined the work of the Family Hubs.

The following information was provided:

- The Family Hubs had derived from the SureStart centres
- There were 11 purpose built Family Hubs in the central, southeast, west and north localities and 7 dedicated outreach points at fire stations, military bases and primary schools for more vulnerable families.

- Family Hub integration was key to establishing and embedding a culture and way on integrated working, bringing projects together from different disciplines and partner organisations.
- A plan had been developed to bring together colleagues from health, midwifery, public health and family hubs to network and share ideas involving a programme of locality workforce engagement events which were supported by senior management across all partners.
- Early help support requests were triaged in the Early Help Team sitting within the 'Front Door'.
- Information on the Family Hubs could be found on the Council's website.
- The Prevention and Intervention Pathway had been created as a means of having a consistent, science backed, evidence based offer for families.
- In response to Covid in 2020, the Prevention and Intervention Pathway had been delivered virtually.
- To extend the reach to all families, there had been significant investment into enhancing the digital offer to families to meet their needs.
- The Start for Life Offer on the Council's website had been accessed over 1000 times since March 2023.

In response to a comment on the offer for youth provision and a commitment across all ages in Northumberland, it was stated that a report would be presented to a joint FACs and Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny meeting on youth provision.

A member was pleased that Southeast Family Hubs were using Axminster Close, Community House as an outreach location as there was no Family Hub premises in Cramlington.

The officer was thanked for her presentation.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

28. CRAMLINGTON YOUTH AND COMMUNITY TEAM

Joe Eltringham, Youth Co-ordinator, Cramlington Town Council shared a presentation on the support given to the community and youth.

The presentation included:

- An explanation of what the team did, eg, engagement in partnership work; investment into youth provision; giving young people advice.
- The framework which was based on Asset Based Community Development (A,B,C,D) allowed communities to drive the development process themselves.
- The networks created through A,B,C,D included Wild Spaces Hub, Heritage Hub, Youth Partnership, ADHD and Autism Network, Dementia Friendly Cramlington, ASB Partnership and Youth Council.

- Partnership working included Northumbria Police, Northumberland Fire and Rescue, Northumberland Family Hubs, Manor Walks, Cramlington Voluntary Youth Project, Youth Justice Service, CVS and various youth providers.
- Youth Provision – Cramlington Town Council had invested in 3 youth clubs across Cramlington – Youth Partnership, Cramlington Voluntary Youth Project and community centres which hosted youth clubs.
- Free school holiday activity had been provided over the summer holidays.
- Since March 2022, Cramlington Town Council had their own Youth Council.

Members commented on the following:

- The support Cramlington Town Council received for youth provision compared to West Bedlington Town Council. Mr Eltringham stated that the Town Council did not receive any support with the provision. There had previously been one Youth Worker designated to Cramlington who operated on a Thursday evening, however that had not been the case for some months.
- Good partnership working but more investment was required for other community groups in the county.
- The lack of accessibility with public transport in certain areas and the lack of youth provision in other areas of the county.
- The issue of the closure of the Youth Club at Seaton Delaval.

Councillor Daley stated that a report on Youth Services would be presented to FACs and a briefing note prepared for a future LAC meeting.

Mr Eltringham was thanked for his presentation.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

29. WORK PROGRAMME

RESOLVED that the work programme be noted.

30. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 18 October.

CHAIR

DATE