

Sustainable City Outcome Improvement Group

Meeting on Teams 29th August 2024

Present: Alison Hannan, Alison Stuart, Alan Simpson, Alastair Reid, Daria Shapovalova, Danny Ruta, Jillian Evans, Jade Leyden, Kevin Leslie, Martin Carle, Martina Klubal, Phil Mackie, Rachel Roberts, Sarah Irvine, Sinclair Laing, Steven Shaw, Sue Lawrence, Urenna Adegbotolu

Apologies: David Selkirk, Fiona Mann, Sean Baird

Jillian provided an update from the Community Planning Partnership Management Group meeting and informed that both the Social Prescribing and the LEAF NESCAN Charter had been signed-off.

1. Nature-Based Social Prescribing

Alison Hannan provided an overview of the Nature-Based Project Charter:

Change ideas

The overarching change ideas aim to test to see if the following change ideas result in benefits to the health and wellbeing for individuals identified by health care professionals:

1. Test to see if a focus and promotion on nature-based activities via the GP Link Worker Programme and the RSPB Nature Prescriptions results in benefits to health and wellbeing for individuals identified by health care professionals. Within this, the following specific tests of change are:
 - Introduce the RSPB process to at least one GP Practice
 - Test the feasibility and uptake of nature-based prescribing by GP Link Worker in central locality with a view to increasing the uptake
2. Develop a map of existing nature based activities for referral from social prescribing to enable referrals to be made (whilst understanding any potential challenges in accessing nature-based activities across Aberdeen City). Within this, we will:
 - Test whether ALISS could be used in preference to a locally developed database for both individual searching and for health care professional searching.
3. Identify the support required for community organisations to deliver social prescribing by testing the following:
 - Can available funding opportunities (e.g. Health Improvement Fund/NESCAN) be aligned to social prescribing activities in particular nature-based programmes.

2. LEAF NESCAN Project Charter

Alison Stuart talked through the Project Charter:

Change ideas

- (1) Develop, promote and test the uptake of a new community environmental improvement fund to support community-led local environmental action.
- (2) Work with community partners to develop and test the impact and reach of different targeted communication strategies to ensure that opportunities to undertake environmental action reach minority and other equalities groups.
- (3) Create and test a new support infrastructure and individual support for community groups applying for and/or awarded funding and continuing beyond the initial funding allocation.
- (4) Test whether a Global Village Environment Network Cards event at the CAN Day increases the number of new community-led environmental actions and facilitates sustainable community-led decisions about local environmental issues.
- (5) Promote opportunities of adopting available land that can be used for community-led environmental improvements.

3. Waste Project Charter (promoting Reduce, reuse and recycle in the workplace and wider community)

Phil Mackie shared the revised Project Charter for Waste that was discussed and approved.

Change ideas (What can we do that will result in improvement?)

Behaviour change:

1. Schools waste test of change in (initially) 1 school):

- Establish links between pilot school and local allotments/other local growing arrangements for producing fruit, vegetables, salad ingredients, etc. for use in local schools for school meal production.
- Develop use of seasonal, organic(?) and sustainable produce within school catering, linking to 'Food for Life Served Here' certification through the Soil Association (ACC Catering Services already hold bronze level award for city primary and secondary schools).
- Food waste to be streamed per the following:
 - a. Peelings/preparation waste and plate waste to be streamed into food waste recycling, processed by anaerobic digestion at Keenan Recycling, used to help create energy/biofuel/fertiliser, etc. (this contract is already in place)
 - b. Overproduction 'waste' to be refrigerated and made available for children and families to help address cost of living, or to charities for distribution to homeless or otherwise in need citizens.

2. Community small electrical reuse:

- expand the pilot WEEE Reuse shop.
- increase the number and location of WEEE recycling bins.

4. ICE Crews

Danny Ruta and Kevin Leslie shared about a piece of work that started end December 2022 looking to reduce attendances at Emergency Departments for Aberdeen ARI and Dr Grays in Moray over the winter months. Danny explained data intelligence was used to identify hot spots across the City where people had more incidents resulting in falls and attending Emergency Department. In Aberdeen common places were long roads with a steep gradient e.g. Cults and Woodside areas.

Working with three Community Hospitals a bit of money was provided to set up voluntary ICE Crews who would have access to sacks of salt and wheelbarrows to distribute the salt upon a notification of a change in weather resulting in slippery conditions.

As a result of the voluntary team health intelligence saw a 20% reduction in admissions to hospital. There were also subsequent unintended consequences/benefits of the project e.g. increase in community spirit other areas wanted to be involved e.g. sheltered housing areas saw a reduction in social isolation. Links to community resilience planning.

Kevin explained that he learnt a lot about the pressures and reasons why roads depts. Do not grit everywhere e.g. not the capacity to grit everywhere, it is also not environmentally friendly to grit everywhere.

Danny highlighted that he is hoping that the funding from Public Health will not be cut and it is not uncommon for NHS Health Boards to give money to Local Authorities to help reduce the number of falls e.g. Durham Council received £250K from NHS Health Board to maintain roads and paths.

5. Locality Planning Team

Jade Leyden provided a short presentation on Locality Planning. Explained the PNP's (Priority Neighbourhood Partnerships and the LEGS (Local Empowerment Groups). Jade was happy to share her presentation.

6. Warm Homes Update

Jillian Evans provided a quick update on the Warm Homes initiative looking to go ahead again this year Scottish Power will be leading on it. Jillian working with Fuel Poverty Housing colleagues in each Local Authority should have more information on funding and process for applying by end of Sept.

Next meeting:

Please contact Jacqui or Jillian with any agenda items.