

Eden Locality Board Children and Young People Working Group 20.12.23.

Report by Michael Hanley

Chair: John Murray (JM, LD)

1. Cumbria Music Education Hub

Marion Hinds (MaH) and Susan Harrison (SH), Westmorland and Furness Music Service.

MaH: The service focuses on children and young people. This is part of government plans to change lives and part of a national plan for music education. We work with other groups to teach children to sing and play a musical instrument. We work through schools. There is funding from the Arts Council which needs to be match funded from other sources. There is a local plan to work with the 38 primary and 5 secondary schools in the Eden area. Every child should learn a musical instrument for at least one term. We start with a needs analysis, then look at SMART targets, then a programme of activities and finally evaluate. The current target is to increase involvement of primary schools. We have ukulele and recorder programs. The next priority after this is looking at vocal and other ensembles and to provide opportunities for live performances. We will be bringing string quartets to play in schools. Four schools are promoting live concerts. Discussed various local musical organisations such as Bluejam Arts which runs a Saturday morning music club, Sunbeams Music Trust and Cumbria Youth Orchestra. There are place-based ensembles in schools in Kirkby Stephen, Appleby, Alston and Penrith. Discussed involvement of people from the local communities. There has been less investment in music in schools. There are 8 jazz and vocal inspiration progress days and short music courses on line.

V Taylor (VT, LD): I was asked why we don't have a music hub. Being involved with arts is very important for young people.

M Hanley (MH, L): There are lots of adult amateur musicians in the various communities some of whom could possibly help with ensembles in the schools.

MaH: Yes, we would like to build up this.

P Dew (PD, C): I believe in inclusivity. A lot cannot get to a hub but they can get to their school. Do you want us, as the Eden Locality Board, to provide more funding? On-line music education is a good idea.

P Bell (PB, LD): I am worried about the increasing number of children who are home schooled. I remember when I was a teacher, some children can be changed around (from poor behaviour) after learning to play an instrument. We could also see how we could raise more money for your programme.

MaH: Thanks so much for these ideas.

J Murray (JM, LD): There are quite a few community choirs so we may be able to network with them.

Kellie Bradburn-Sims (KB, Development Officer): I would like to help Marian to expand the Music Hub.

2. 0-19 Year Fund

KB: There is £31k in this fund. There are a few requests for funding:

Dreamscheme Eden (engages young people in social action and engaging with the community): £4k,

a multi-use games area (MUGA) at Carleton Park: £5k,

outdoors activities provision at Pategill park and play: £3645,

GLL (Greenwich Leisure): swim at 10 p per swim: £4k.

MH: I don't want to be churlish but all of this seems to be centred on Penrith. I don't think many people from Alston use the Penrith swimming pool. I wonder whether a minibus could be arranged to transport young people over on a regular basis?

JM: Yes, we have criticised other parts of WAFC area for getting more investment so we have to be careful in our locality.

PD: Alston has had more than its fair share and this is the usual Alston moan.

MH: I had prefaced my comments indicating I was not sure what I said was the case.

PD: Discussed the requests for funding.

PB: I am familiar with the Pategill and Carleton projects. I support them. Pategill is one of the most deprived wards. The Carleton project has raised £100k.

Clare Paling (CP, Active Cumbria): I could bring Councillor Hanley up to speed about what we have been doing in Alston in the last few years with swimming and exercise.

MH: Yes, that would be good, thank you.

KB: Discussed the 10p swim. A lot of our outdoor pools are community run.

3. Strategic Youth Project

KB: The balance is £10k. The priority is to improve mental health and reduce the effects of exam stress. The initiative is to work with secondary schools such as Ullswater, SKS (Alston), Appleby and Kirkby Stephen. The aim is to build emotional resilience. We will be involving Barnardos as the delivery partner. There will be a project meeting in January to scope and look at costs. The shaping of the project has come from the schools. The best time for this is in the run up to the exams, not during the exam period.

JM: I think you have done a super job.

PD: Kellie has done a lot of work and you have done what the schools have wanted. Do we have time to get it ready?

KB: Yes, by the skin of our teeth. The second half of the Spring term is when we will start.

3. 11-19 Youth Provisions

KB: Funding is £17k. We inherited this project from EDC. It enabled youth provision in Kirkby Stephen, Penrith and Appleby and was starting in Alston. Every Thursday at Riverside in Penrith from 3 to 5pm there are games and activities. The annual running costs are £6k. A couple of years ago there was hardly any youth provision. A youth worker was provided. Since more activities were organised. There was a youth club group but it was poorly attended. Now there are monthly activities and this is all run by the Fairhill Trust and they also do some stuff with the school. Cost are for one play leader with an annual cost of £4k. The Kirkby Stephen Youth Centre opens three times per week and costs £10k per annum. There is also Penrith Methodist Centre and youth groups in Brough, Shap and Appleby.

Discussed the Cumbria Youth Alliance which got grant funding from the National Lottery for the Better Tomorrow Program which trains youth workers.

JM: We do have some extra money.

VT: Can we not fund Special Needs?

KB: Yes.

PD: It was difficult to get things going in Alston but it is great they are getting together on a monthly basis. Kellie has worked tirelessly to get things done.

G Simpkins (GS, LD): If there is £5k left, can we not put it to Special Needs in Appleby?

KB: If its a church-based provision, they have to show it is for everyone.

Discussed the allocation of the money.

4. Any Other Business

PB: The Integrated Care Board for dentistry in Eden is underspent. I have asked Katrina Stephens (Public Health Physician and Director of Public Health) whether we could spend that money in a different way, to improve the oral health of young people.

JM: We should be interested in this. I would be happy to look into it.

KB: Discussed Sexual Health Education in schools.