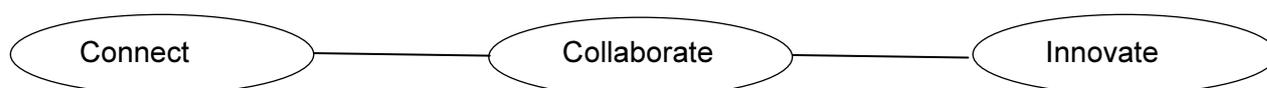


Community Hubs

- 1.1 **Objective:** To develop Community Hubs across Cheshire East which provide services where local people will use them, so that services are delivered in the way which gives the best value for local people.

| Milestones  | Date         |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Establish Community Hubs in 5 pilot areas to test concept.   | March 2015   |
| 2. Agree plan to extend Hubs across CE by March 2017.   | January 2015 |
| 3. Establish Local Transformation Groups to lead in local development and implementation of Community Hubs. | July 2014    |
| 4. To secure capital investment required to establish hubs and enable future savings.                       | April 2015   |
| 5. Identify capital and revenue savings to be made by rationalising community assets.                       | March 2016   |

- 1.2 In order to fully achieve the best outcomes whilst creating Community Hubs there may be a requirement for capital investment, which is currently being explored
- 1.3 The aim is to create community hubs which are well connected and provide spaces, services and activities that people want and will benefit from in our communities. Their purpose is to enable local people to:



- 1.4 Community Hubs will:

- Bring together services and activities, focused on local needs.
- Bring together buildings like libraries, children's centres, day care centres, health outreach venues, civic centres, community centres – with social assets like volunteering & events.
- Does not mean one building – could be a network of places, connected by local people.
- Ensure that buildings are in the right places and used when people need them.
- Different in each area, linking clusters of communities together.
- Be across all areas of Cheshire East and will vary to meet local need.
- Focus on a shared plan, which outlines the local vision, priorities & actions.
- Include various elements, such as service co-ordination, delivery, place shaping, community buildings.
- Involve Councillors as community leaders.
- Involve local people in designing and planning services, and where possible, local people will manage the centres and/or services.
- Have the potential for efficiencies by cutting back room costs and rationalising buildings and on-going maintenance costs.
- Involve either investment in new buildings, refurbishment of existing assets, or purchasing mobile units.

## 1.5 To make this happen we

- Developed a Project Board, which includes representatives from a wide range of council teams, such as Assets, Commissioning, Housing, Transport, Partnerships, and Community Services. (This will extend to partners when we get asset mapping done).
- Have started mapping all of our assets in the community by area, working with local people and partners.
- Will be identifying duplication, gaps and what can be done around them.
- Will establish an asset rationalisation programme to identify savings.
- Will agree a vision for each area, which identifies local priorities and service needs.
- Will redesign what we do to meet needs and potentially rationalise buildings, ensuring those used are in the right place, open at the right times, are fit for purpose and sustainable.
- Will work with others to provide services and activities in different ways, involving local people in designing and planning services and supporting them to deliver where appropriate.
- Develop ways to provide outreach services in neighbourhoods and rural communities, utilising existing community run assets and developing more mobile services.
- Focus on a number of priority areas initially and then roll out the approach.

## 1.6 Suggested Priority Areas to develop Community Hubs in 2014

**Wilmslow** - To develop a campus style approach which networks existing community buildings provides better services and in the right locations. There are a number of buildings in Wilmslow which are not used at their capacity and so the new approach will enable an enhanced service whilst also rationalising current assets.

**Congleton** – Develop town centre Community Hub at the Library, which links to other assets based in the community, such as Astbury Mere, Buglawton Community Centre being developed, Bromley Farm Community Centre and Resource Centre. Need to ensure hub enables those who need to access Children and Family services, and enhance the current provision available for young people.

**Crewe** - The focus in Crewe is to better integrate local services, whilst also ensuring key early intervention and prevention services are provided in neighbourhoods which link to and enhance the main Community Hub in the Town Centre, the Lifestyle Centre.

**Moss Rose Estate, Macclesfield** - To develop a community based hub on the estate, which provides a wide range of services to meet the specific needs of the local community. Needs to be in a location at the heart of the community, where local people will access it and will link to existing community buildings, in which community led activities are provided. Key issue identified by residents is lack of accessible health services, so needs to link Caring Together to ensure we are able to provide the right community based health and social care services.

**Hurdsfield, Macclesfield** - There are a number of community buildings which are not cost effective to maintain or refurbish. Need to develop space for community led activities, which adds to the new centre being built on Delamere Drive, plus need a venue to provide key early intervention and prevention services from. There is an

opportunity to build a new facility and dispose of a number of other assets, for which there is already interest to develop housing on those sites.

**Broken Cross, Macclesfield** – There are not many facilities on this estate and Macclesfield Leisure Centre is across the road and doesn't necessarily serve residents from the estate. Part of this is perception and also the physical barrier of the road. There is a church building called Upton Priory which serves the local community in a limited capacity due to its internal layout. The plan is to refurbish the building and make this into a community hub for this estate.

**Longridge, Knutsford** - The current buildings do not work well together and so need to network to provide the range of services needed. Potential to provide services from the Welcome Café, St Johns Wood Community Centre and the Children's Centre. Looking at better sharing of resources and potentially opening up other facilities such as the school Play Barn and MUGA facilities for community use.

**Audlem** – There are a number of vibrant local facilities and groups in Audlem, and this works as a community hub and as a model of best practice. However, sustaining this and also developing the right facilities to deliver more services locally and by the VCF sector and the Parish Council is really important to this community. Currently, the Council are supporting a bid to develop the village hall.

**Rural Areas** - Need to develop mobile services to allow service delivery in a wide range of rural locations. Proposal is to purchase mobile units / buses that enable us to target outreach services to meet local needs.