

# Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities

## Agenda

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**Date:** Tuesday, 11th July, 2017  
**Time:** 9.00 am  
**Venue:** R1 & R2 - Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach, CW11 1HZ

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and in the report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cabinet meetings are webcast and the recording of the webcast will remain available for public viewing on the Council's website.

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the meeting on any matter relevant to the work of the body in question. Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman or person presiding will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers. Members of the public are not required to give notice to use this facility. However, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours' notice is encouraged.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given.

4. **Social Franchise Model Pilot Offer Award - Connected Community Centres** (Pages 3 - 16)

To consider the award of a franchise to the Audlem Public Hall Community Group, and to the Bridgend Centre, Bollington.

5. **Social Franchise Model Revised Offer Amendments Connected Community Centres** (Pages 17 - 42)

To consider amendments to the social franchise model, and that thirty additional venues for franchisee status will be proposed to the Portfolio Holder during 2017/18 and 2018/19.

6. **Social Franchisee Award Proposals Connected Community Centres** (Pages 43 - 46)

To consider the award of franchisee status and grant to St Barnabas Church, Crewe; The Welcome Café, Knutsford; Jubilee House, Wishing Well, Crewe; St. Johns Church, Macclesfield.

*N.B: Please see agenda item 5 for appendices 1 & 2 which are the same for both reports.*

**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL****Cabinet Member Decision Paper**

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**Date of Meeting: 11 July 2017**

**Report of: Fiona Reynolds, Director of Public Health**

**Subject/Title: Social Franchise Model Pilot Offer Award – Connected Community Centres**

**Portfolio Holder: Paul Bates – Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities**

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**1. Report Summary**

- 1.1. As part of our Connected Communities Strategy, Cheshire East Council is leading a programme of work along with our partners, to develop vibrant and sustainable community venues across the borough. By piloting a social franchise model it has allowed us to work in collaboration with key stakeholders in neighbourhoods, delivering services at a range of key buildings in the heart of communities. Working with our local partners who own or manage community assets is key to service delivery and tackling local priorities, providing the right services in the right place, at the right times. They can be the flagship venues for delivery points in our communities for Cheshire East Council, partners and commissioned services. The pilot social franchise model has been a key element of our ambitious programme to empower our communities, providing information and access to help for residents, tackling the causes rather than the symptoms. They are centres that deliver for those in need, with a wide range of outreach early intervention and prevention services, to protect our vulnerable residents.
- 1.2. The Cabinet Member for Communities approved the pilot social franchise model for Community Hubs back on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015.
- 1.3. This report provides details for the two and final community venues that have been put forward to progress under the pilot social franchise model.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. That under the pilot social franchise offer agreed in July 2015, it is recommended to award a franchise which will be reviewed annually to:
  - Audlem Public Hall Community Group, Audlem
  - Bridgend Centre, Bollington
- 2.2. To award each of the organisations a start up grant., to support and enable them to meet the franchise criteria. Each organisation is awarded up to a maximum of £2k which sum can be used to obtain the items set out in the application form (e.g. Broadband/ Wi-Fi enablement, CVS membership, insurances, IT equipment, phone lines, and other issues identified) .

### **3. Other Options Considered**

- 3.1. To withdraw the previous offer to organisations that have already begun to progress with the pilot social franchise criteria, this option could damage relations with the local community. The other option was to work with these asset owners to accept the new social franchise model, this option was considered but not progressed as the venues do not meet the new criteria set, which is to be located within one of the Connected Community identified priority locations.

### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1. The pilot franchise model provides a robust framework to establish a recognised standard of governance and ensures consistent service standards across services and activities provided. This has been quality assured through the completion of a Community and Voluntary Sector quality mark.
- 4.2. The expressions of interests by Audlem Public Hall and Bridgend Centre were submitted prior to development of the new Connected Community Centre social franchise model.
- 4.3. Audlem Public Hall and Bridgend Centre are both committed to becoming active members of the Connected Community Networks. Both venues have adhered to the criteria set out in the pilot social franchise model.

### **5. Background/Chronology**

- 5.1. The Cabinet Member for Communities approved a pilot social franchise model for Community Hubs on the 20th July 2015. A model was adopted and monitored for development and was offered to any community asset owner across the borough.
- 5.2. The pilot social franchise model provides a framework which ensures community venues:
  - Have local and effective governance arrangements in place, with quality assurance provided through a validated self-assessment process.
  - Share existing learning with local organisations.
  - Operate flexibly to meet their local context and circumstances.
  - Develop a strong network of organisations.
  - Work through genuine and mutually beneficial partnerships, under a common identity.
- 5.3. Applicants applying to the franchise status must demonstrate they meet the GRIPPP self-assessment assurance process, which is externally validated to demonstrate that the organisation has good governance in place including:

- Governance – look after the direction, development and legal responsibilities
  - Resources – in place to enable them to get work done
  - Information – on local area and how to get things done
  - Projects – deliver tasks and activities
  - People – connect, network and involve local community
  - Premises –additional requirement for venues to ensure premises run effectively.
- 5.4. Applicants for membership must ensure meet the core offer outlined in Appendix 1.
- 5.5. Audlem is a rural location in Cheshire East with residents often living in isolation. The age profile is older than the Cheshire East average with nearly one in four residents being over the age of sixty five, the sixth highest proportion in Cheshire East. Consultation with this this age group highlighted an inability or struggle to travel for social, leisure and medical activities because of a lack of transport and / or irregular public transport. Audlem Medical Practice who are a key stakeholder in this locality report their patient population has a significantly higher incidence of long term health conditions compared with the England average. The Medical Practice has confirmed people suffering from long term conditions would benefit from additional local health facilities in accessible accommodation, including exercise opportunities and social activity. Audlem Public Hall sits in the heart of Audlem village and is well used by the local residents, and they have agreed to join the Community Network. Becoming a franchisee would further support the Hall to be more sustainable and will enable further development of activities and service provision to address local priorities.
- 5.6. Bollington is surrounded by rural areas, with 19% of the local residents being aged 65 and above, this coupled with 17% of people suffering with long term illness or disabilities increases the need for an ongoing presence to work with our communities in this area. Elderly and people suffering ill health often results in social isolation which has been identified by key stakeholders in the local area as a key priority to address. The Bridgend Centre is ideally located in Bollington and already provides many services that aim to social isolation and is a well respected local charity and venue in the heart of Bollington. The current usage is high for a range of purposes such as support for elderly and people with various disabilities and but they are keen for further services to be delivered from this venue, which more early intervention and preventative local priorities.
- 5.7. Both asset owners understand the benefit of partnership working and want to see more local issues being resolved by using their respective community buildings as those flagship venues for service delivery.

## **6. Wards Affected and Local Ward Members**

### **6.1. Audlem and Bollington Wards**

## **7. Risk Management & Implications of Recommendation**

### **7.1. Legal Implications**

The Council has the power to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. In exercising the power the Council must satisfy its public law duties. In essence this means that in making the decision the Council must have taken into account only relevant considerations, followed procedural requirements, acted for proper motives and not acted unreasonably. An application process is a clear statement of the criteria that the Council is applying and is essential if the Council is to defend any challenge to its decision making process.

Cabinet approved a pilot scheme for the award of a social franchise. Franchises and start up grants are being awarded to defined organisations following an application process and against set criteria. By entering into a formal grant agreement with the Council the organisations can be monitored and required to report back to the Council upon their compliance with the franchise requirements and expenditure of the grant. The decision making process was delegated to the Portfolio Holder in order to ensure that decisions can be made expeditiously and at the appropriate level.

Grant funding to organisations based on the application of the Council's published scheme satisfies the Council's public law duties.

### **7.2. Financial Implications**

The £2,000 grants for both franchisees will be funded from the Community hub reserves which were approved as part of the Connected Community Strategy by Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016. There is sufficient funding in this earmarked reserve for these two applications.

### **7.3. Equality Implications**

Application has been open to all asset owners under the pilot social franchise offer

### **7.4. Rural Community Implications**

Application has been open to all asset owners under the pilot social franchise offer

### **7.5. Public Health Implications**

The awarding of social franchise status to Audlem Public Hall Community group and Bridgend Centre will provide an additional asset for public health commissioned services to be delivered from.

**7.6. Risk Management**

All risks will be mitigated through continuous monitoring and development of the franchise model.

**8. Access to Information**

- 8.1. Previous Social Franchise model application form that outlines offer and expectations (Appendix 1).

**9. Contact Information**

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

**Name: Dan Coyne**

**Designation: Delivering Differently Manager - Partnerships and Communities**

**Tel. No. 01625 383845**

**Email: [Daniel.coyne@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Daniel.coyne@cheshireeast.gov.uk)**

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## Community Hub Franchise Expression of Interest

Cheshire East Council in working with partners has developed a Franchise model for Community Hubs, which offers a range of benefits to its members see below.

The franchise provides a framework which ensures Community Hubs have good governance arrangements and meet agreed service standards. It will ensure hubs tailor their services and activities based on local needs. Allow flexibility and importantly encourages innovation. Being part of the Franchise will enable and support hubs to operate under a shared branding, and share operating techniques, marketing, good practice, recruitment, back office functions etc.

The local franchising pack outlines a shared manner and style and provides guidance e.g. Policy templates, suggested operating procedures etc. Applicants and Franchisees, will gain access to local and Cheshire East wide networks and a wide range of resources.

Accepted applicants will be entitled to a start-up funding, which would be available to applicants, to support and enable them to meet the franchise criteria, up to a maximum of £2k (e.g. Broadband/ Wi-Fi enablement, CVS membership, insurances, IT equipment, phone lines, and other issues identified).

Applications will not be accepted from for profit commercial organisations/businesses

### Criteria

The criteria for membership are that the Hub provides the core offer below:

- At least 20 hours per week (at centre or through a network arrangement) of access for the public or service users to access information and services (see below)
- Premises available for communities and local organisations to book for group activities 7 days/evenings per week excluding times set aside by managing organisation for own use eg place of worship
- Agree to collection of data quarterly – Footfall, volunteer hours, services and data sharing
- Promotion of all local community services and activities, including those available at the venue (and within network).
- Signposting and links to a range of public information and services.
- Agree to annual review
- Complete GRIPPP Assurance
- Receive Safeguarding awareness package from Community Development Officer

In addition, organisations running hubs need to:

Be active members of the local and Cheshire East Community Hub network and commit to attend meetings and training.

Meet GRIPPP assurance process, which is externally validated by CVS to demonstrate that the organisation has good governance in place including:

- Governance – look after the direction, development and legal responsibilities
- Resources – in place to enable them to get work done
- Information – on local area and how to get things done
- Projects – deliver tasks and activities

- People – connect, network and involve local community
- Premises –additional requirement for hubs to ensure premises run effectively.

### **Application Process**

#### *Stage 1*

The organisation managing the Community Hub meets Level 1 of the GRIPP process and completes an expression of interest to become a franchisee. The application is considered by the Partnership team reviewing GRIPP level 1 and franchise checklist:

1. Approves the application and progression to stage 2 - OR
2. CDO Offers package of support (including templates etc.) support to fulfil the criteria for approval, the applicant Hub joins their local network for peer support, CVS offer support to achieve Level 2 of the GRIPPP assurance process, the organisations can access training package but are not awarded franchise at this stage.

#### *Stage 2*

Organisation completes GRIPPP assurance & gains validation by CECVS before application for approval to the Portfolio Holder.

The application is considered by the Portfolio Holder who either:

1. Approves the application and progression to stage 3 - OR
2. Declines application with reasons – and organisation can decide to apply again, but future applications do not qualify for start-up grant.

Portfolio Holder Decisions are made every 3 months and dates of meetings are advertised on an annual basis.

*Stage 3* - Award franchise if appropriate - full package offered.

*Review* – If an applicant is not happy with the outcome, they can submit a review of the process, which will be considered by a Panel of 2 Portfolio Holders and a representative from CECVS.

**Part A – About Your Organisation**

<b>1. Main contact details:</b>	
Name:	
Address:	
Post code:	
Tel No:	Email:

<b>2. Organisation:</b>	
Organisation Name:	
Organisation Address:	
Post code:	

<b>3. Type of Organisation:</b>		
Type	Please tick all that apply	Registration Number / Article of Association (if applicable)
Church Council		
Community interest Company		
Community Group		
Registered Charity		
Social Enterprise		
Other – please detail		

**4. Why are you applying for a Community Hub Franchise**

Please briefly describe why you want franchise status and how it will benefit your neighbourhood  
How you will tailor Services based on local needs.

**1. Name and address of venue you are nominating:**

Name/Number:

Address:

Post code:

**2. Who owns the venue?**

Asset Owner(s) Name:

Asset Owner(s) Address:

Post code:

**3. What is the current use of the venue?**

**4. Is the venue used wholly or partly as a residence?**

**Part B evidence that the organisation meets criteria**

<p>To move to stage 2 of the Franchise your organisation will be required to provide proof that you meet criteria and also complete the CVS GRIPPP tool</p> <p>This assessment will be conducted by a Local Engagement officer all areas will need to be satisfy for applicant to receive Franchise and Funding</p>		
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evidence provided</b>	<b>Date signed off</b>
At least 20 hours per week (at centre or through a network arrangement) of access for the public or service users to access information and services		
Premises available for communities and local organisations to book for group activities 7 days/evenings per week excluding times set aside by managing organisation for own use eg place of worship		
Agree to collection of data quarterly – Footfall, volunteer hours, services and data sharing		
Promotion of all local community services and activities, including those available at the venue (and within network).		
Signposting and links to a range of public information and services		
Agree to annual review		
Be active members of the local and Cheshire East Community Hub network and commit to attend meetings and training		

**Stage 2**

To move to stage 2 of the Franchise your organisation will be required to provide proof that you meet criteria and also complete the CVS GRIPP online assessment  
This assessment will be conducted by a Community Development Officer all areas will need to be satisfy for applicant to receive franchise and funding

**Signed on behalf of the organisation**

**Name :**

**Position within Organisation :**

**Date :**

**Signed on behalf of Cheshire East :**

**Position within Organisation:**

**Date:**

## Part C – Checklist and Completion

Checklist – Support will be provide by Local Engagement Officer/CVS to develop policies not currently in practice	
Date Completed/obtained	All policies or forms must be in place to obtain Franchise status (Copy to be obtained by CDO, electronic collection is acceptable )
	GRIPPP assurance first assessment
	GRIPPP assurance completed
	Safeguarding Policy
	Constitution
	Child protection Policy
	Confidentiality Policy
	Vulnerable Persons Policy
	Equality and Diversity Policy
	Financial Policy
	Insurance Policies
	Data Protection Policy
	Data Sharing Policy
	Date Handling Policy
	Lone Working Policy
	Volunteer Policy
	Volunteer induction checklist
	Volunteer application form
	Volunteer Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form
	Volunteering Recruitment Flyer
	Volunteer Registration Form
	Volunteer application form
	Applying for Reference/s volunteers
	Impact Assessment/Monitoring
	Evidence Gathering Tools – Storyboards, Consultation, Participatory Appraisals
	Project Management
	Maintenance Checklists – Premises Health Check, Planned Preventative Maintenance Plan
	Buildings log book (Responsible persons handbook)
	Health & Safety Policy
	First Aid Policy
	Personnel Emergency Evacuation Plan – Route Plan, Signage, Assembly point
	Accident and Incident Reporting and Investigation policy
	Accident Book (evidence of use)
	Risk Assessments Form (evidence of use)
	Visitors Book (evidence of use)
	Accident Reporting form
	Hirers Booking Form
	Key Holders Agreement form
	Control of Substances policy
	Dealing with emergencies procedure/policy
	Electrical Safety policy
	Gas Safety policy
	Fire safety policy

**Please send your completed form:**

By Email to: [Partnerships@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Partnerships@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

By Post to: Community Hub Franchise, Partnerships & Communities Team,  
c/o Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe CW1 2BJ

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**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL****Cabinet Member Decision Paper**

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**Date of Meeting: 11 July 2017**

**Report of: Fiona Reynolds, Director of Public Health**

**Subject/Title: Social Franchise Model Revised Offer Amendments – Connected Community Centres**

**Portfolio Holder: Paul Bates – Cabinet member for Finance and Communities**

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**1. Report Summary**

- 1.1. Cheshire East Council as part of the Connected Communities Strategy is leading a programme of work along with our partners, to develop vibrant and sustainable Connected Community Centres in identified priority locations including our key service centres and those neighbourhoods which feature in the top 25% nationally in terms of overall deprivation. By revising our existing social franchise model it allows us to focus on key areas, engages communities in decision making, and promotes collaborative working to identify and tackle local priorities through a range of key buildings in the heart of communities. Establishing 30 Connected Community Centres over the next 2 years, will be key to service delivery ensuring we are tackling local priorities, providing the right services in the right place, at the right times. They can be the flagship venues for delivery points in our communities for Cheshire East Council, partners and commissioned services.
- 1.2. The Cabinet Member for Communities approved the pilot social franchise offer for Community Hubs back on 20th July 2015. The revised social franchise model has used the learning highlighted in the Connected to Services report approved by Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (Appendix 2).
- 1.3. This report provides detail on amendments for the revised social franchise model.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. To agree to the amendments made in the social franchise model
- 2.2. To agree that 30 venues during 2017/18 and 2018/19 will be proposed to the portfolio holder for communities to be awarded franchisee status

**3. Other Options Considered**

- 3.1. To continue with the pilot social franchise model was considered but the pilot provided strong feedback from local stakeholders to what was required to achieve its original aims which were to ensure services are

coordinated, they focussed on early intervention and prevention and local priorities are identified and tackled.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1. The revised franchise model provides a greater offer for franchisees and higher expectation on local stakeholders to make decisions. The emphasis is on local organisations through established networks and partnerships identifying priorities within a footprint and working collectively using the Connected Community Centre as the delivery point for service delivery to tackle those identified priorities. The venues will be visible to local partners and residents with branded signage displaying “Connected Community Centre” along with the Cheshire East logo. Each venue will be quality assured through the completion of a Community and Voluntary Sector quality mark named GRIPPP.
- 4.2. The financial offer associated with this social franchise model is time limited for two years. It is important if Cheshire East Council are committed to providing services in the right places at the right time for early intervention and prevention and that the Connected Community Centres are recommended as delivery points through commissioned contracts when applicable.

#### **5. Background/Chronology**

- 5.1. The Cabinet Member for Communities approved a pilot social franchise model for Community Hubs on the 20th July 2015. A model was adopted and monitored for development.
- 5.2. Cabinet agreed to a set of changes based on learning from the pilot franchise model in the Connected to Services report on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017.
- 5.3. A revised social franchise model has been consulted with local stakeholders and the proposed changes are as follows:
  - To display Connected Community Centre signage
  - To be provided with a secured tablet that will have access to a local directory of services (Livewell website)
  - To award grant funding of up to £5,000 for a period of two years to reserve the use of the facilities (equivalent to 5 hours of room hire per week based on £10 per hour) for the delivery of early intervention and prevention services which will be decided by their local network/neighbourhood partnership.
  - An open day (show case of services) will be arranged from awarded franchisee building to inform the community what services could be delivered.
  - An invitation to a biannual conference to allow networking between franchisees.
  - Long term aim will be for the Connected Community Centre to become the flagship venue for service delivery in the footprint it is located within, we will be working with commissioners and providers to support this.

- To be located in the Connected Community identified priority locations including our towns and neighbourhoods within the top 25% areas nationally for overall deprivation (Appendix 1, page 4)
- Each venue will continue to be quality assured through the completion of a Community and Voluntary Sector quality mark known as GRIPPP.

## **6. Wards Affected and Local Ward Members**

- 6.1. All wards across Cheshire East

## **7. Risk Management & Implications of Recommendation**

### **7.1. Policy Implications**

Procurement policies will be adhered too in relation to the financial payment.

### **7.2. Legal Implications**

The Council has the power to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. In exercising the power the Council must satisfy its public law duties. In essence this means that in making the decision the Council must have taken into account only relevant considerations, followed procedural requirements, acted for proper motives and not acted unreasonably. An application process is a clear statement of the criteria that the Council is applying and is essential if the Council is to defend any challenge to its decision making process.

A social franchise and associated grant funding is being awarded following an application process and against set criteria. By entering into a formal grant agreement with the Council the organisations can be monitored and required to report back to the Council upon their compliance with the franchise requirements and expenditure of the grant. The decision making process was delegated to the Portfolio Holder in order to ensure that decisions can be made expeditiously and at the appropriate level.

Grant funding to organisations based on the application of the Council's published scheme satisfies the Council's public law duties.

### **7.3. Financial Implications**

The £5,000 grants provided over four singular £1,250 payments made over two years for each franchisee will be funded from the Community hub reserves which were approved as part of the Connected Community Strategy by Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016. There is sufficient funding in this earmarked reserve for up to 30 Connected Community Centres. The total potential award, 30 centres over next 2 years at £5,000 each over 2 years is £150,000.

### **7.4. Equality Implications**

Application has been open to all asset owners in 26 Connected Community identified priority areas of deprivation

**7.5. Rural Community Implications**

Not all rural can be offered this support as the resource needs to concentrate initially on the in Connected Community identified priority locations including the top 25% areas of deprivation

**7.6. Public Health Implications**

The Connected Community Centres will be the flagship venues for public health service delivery in communities. The consideration of these venues in future commissioned contracts as delivery points to achieve outcomes will be of benefit to local hard to reach residents, achieving a greater reach and assisting with outcomes for the commissioned providers.

**7.7. Risk Management**

All risks will be mitigated through continuous monitoring of the franchise model.

**8. Access to Information**

8.1. Revised Social Franchise model application form that outlines offer and expectations (Appendix 1).

8.2. Connected to Services Report signed of by cabinet 8<sup>th</sup> March (Appendix 2)

**9. Contact Information**

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

**Name: Dan Coyne**

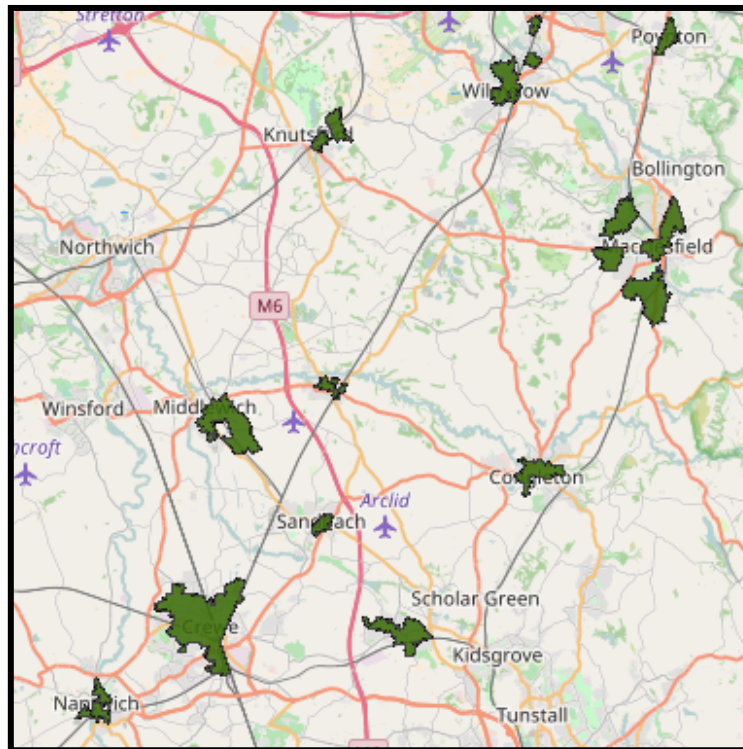
**Designation: Delivering Differently Manager - Partnerships and Communities**

**Tel. No. 01625 383845**

**Email: [Daniel.coyne@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Daniel.coyne@cheshireeast.gov.uk)**

# Connected Community Centre

## Application Form





## Aim

Cheshire East Council through the Connected Communities strategy are wanting to develop stronger relationships with local partners and asset owners, to ensure the right services are delivered at the right place at the right time to the right people. To do this we have developed a social franchise model which will enable a mechanism to work together and be driven by social goals.

Working together under the Connected Community branding, the aim will be to implement a shared vision in our towns and identified target neighbourhoods who feature in the top 15% nationally in terms of overall deprivation.

The key principles to this vision are as follows:

**1. To work in collaboration**

*Working closer with other organisations to provide a streamlined service to residents*

**2. To tackle local priorities**

*Using local knowledge, understanding what the real needs of the local area are*

**3. To support and develop resident led initiatives**

*Work with residents and key stakeholders to identify gaps and initiate new projects*

**4. To coordinate service delivery**

*To ensure a range of services are delivered from a range of areas*

We have a range of community networks across the borough, including neighbourhood partnerships in each of the Connected Community identified priority areas of deprivation. These networks and partnerships are made up of various local key stakeholders.

Your venue has been proposed by your local partnership (**add partnership name**) to be the Connected Community Centre for the locality covering (**add ward or locality the venue will cover**). We would like to invite you to express interest in becoming a Connected Community Centre.

By agreeing to become a Connected Community Centre you will be agreeing to adhere to the offer and expectations outlined below.

## Offer

- Provided with Connected Community Centre signage
- Provided with a secured tablet that will have access to a local directory of services (tablet cannot be replaced by Cheshire East if damaged free of cost)
- Funded given for up to two years to reserve the use of facilities (for the equivalent of 5 hours of room hire per week based on £10 per hour) for the delivery of early intervention and prevention services (which will be decided by (**add partnership name**)).



- The 5 hours could be taken on average dependent of availability and service requirements for example 20 hours over 4 weeks. See below for more information.
- An open day (show case of services) will be arranged from your venue to inform the community what services could be delivered.
- Long term we want your asset to become the flagship venue for service delivery in the footprint you are located within. We will be working with commissioners and providers, so that you and your local partnership will be communicated with when contracts/opportunities become available.
- Opportunity to network with other connected community centres and connected community network members through a biannual conference.

### **Use of facilities as part of the social franchise**

The full two year offer will be dependant on Cheshire East Council signing off by March 2018. The funding will be paid every 6 months in advance. The funding will be for a maximum of 50 weeks per annum. The 5 hours usage will be decided by your local network/neighbourhood partnership and will be paid regardless of the room being occupied.

### **Expectation**

- To agree to a reserve the use of the facilities for activities under the social franchise for the equivalent of £10 per hour for 5 hours a week
- A minimum of 5 hours per week availability for the delivery of new services
- Be open to have a further range of services be delivered from your venue (at your normal room hire charge)
- To become an active member of the local community network / neighbourhood partnership
- Complete the \*GRIPPP assurance tool
- Ensure Connected Community Centre signage is visible to local residents
- To have WIFI
- To install signage and a secure tablet stand (kiosk) in an accessible area of the building
- Agree annual review

\*GRIPPP – A quality mark to ensure the appropriate governance is in place for the building and the delivery of services. Support to complete and externally validated by CVS

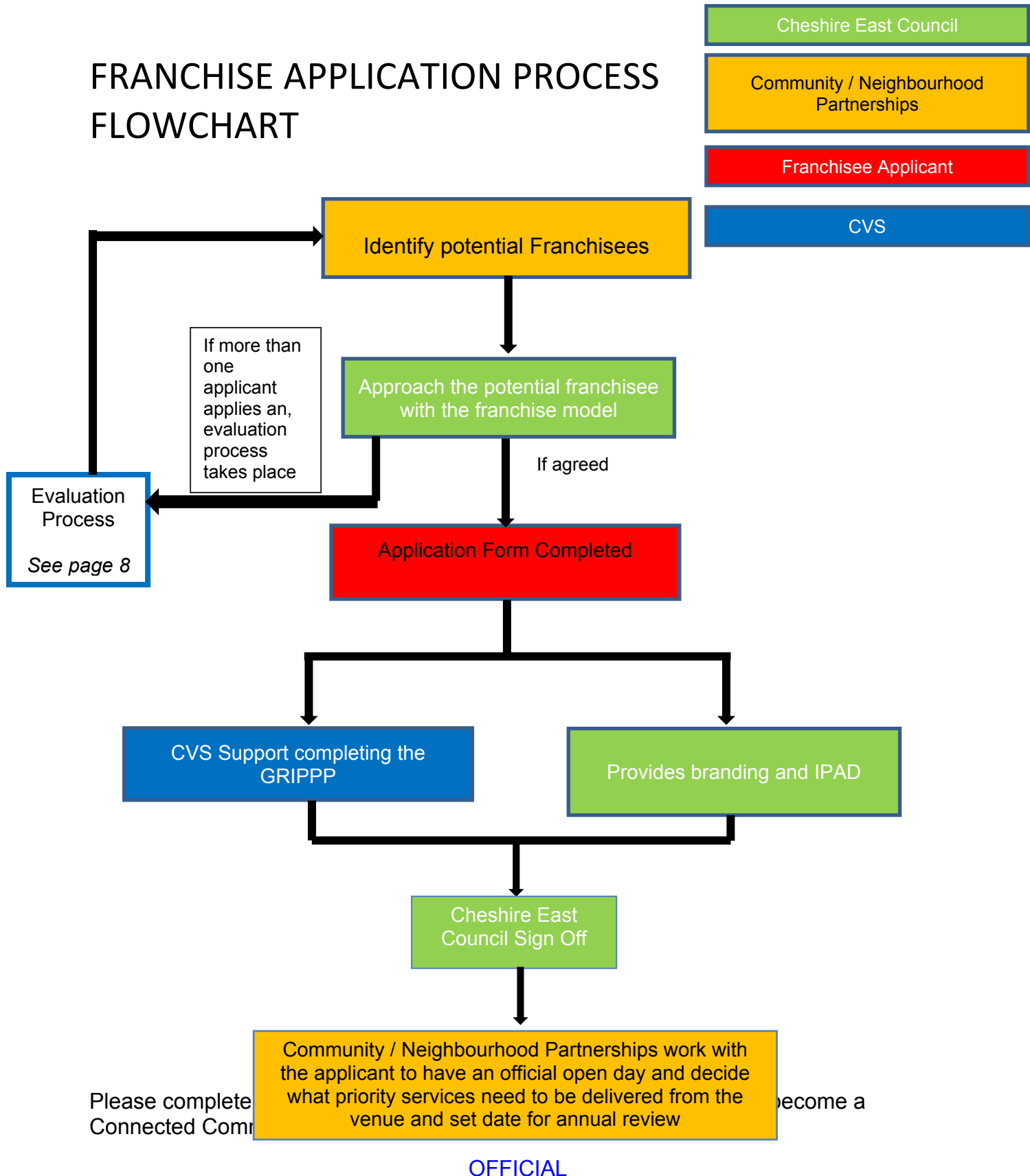


### Connected Community Identified Priority Areas of Deprivation

No.	Locality	Please tick
1	Macclesfield South Ward	
2	Macclesfield Weston and Ivy	
3	Macclesfield Upton	
4	Macclesfield Town Centre	
5	Macclesfield Hurdsfield	
6	Poynton	
7/8	Wilmslow and Colshaw Farm	
9	Spath Lane	
10	Knutsford	
11	Longridge	
12	Holmes Chapel	
13	Congleton	
14	Bromley Farm	
15	Alsager	
16	Radway Estate	
17	Sandbach	
18	Middlewich	
19	Cledford	
20/21	Crewe North	
22/23	Crewe East	
24/25	Crewe West	
26/27	Crewe Central	
28	Crewe South (a) Gresty	
29	Crewe South (b) Westminster	
30	Nantwich	



## FRANCHISE APPLICATION PROCESS FLOWCHART





1. Main contact details:	
Name:	
Address:	
Post code:	
Tel No:	Email:

2. Organisation/Venue:	
Organisation/Venue Name:	
Organisation/Venue Address:	
Post code:	

3. Type of Organisation:		
Type	Please tick all that apply	Registration Number / Article of Association (if applicable)
Church Council		
Community interest Company		
Community Group		
Registered Charity		
Social Enterprise		
Other – please detail		



#### 4. What interests you in becoming a Connected Community Centre

Please briefly describe why you want franchise status and how it will benefit your town/ neighbourhood

How you will tailor Services based on local needs.

### Evaluation

If more than one organisation expresses interest and is willing to adhere the social franchise criteria set out below an evaluation process will take place.

This evaluation will be carried out by the Community / Neighbourhood Partnership and will consider the following factors:

- Sustainability of the building

OFFICIAL



- Added social value each applicant can present
- Location
- Accessibility

The Agreement		
Criteria	Evidence provided	Date signed off
Be open to have a range of services be delivered from your venue (at your agreed room hire charge)		
To become an active member of the local community / neighbourhood partnership		
Complete the GRIPPP assurance tool or supply information relating to an *equivalent accreditation		
Ensure Connected Community Centre signage is visible to local residents		
Agree annual review		

\*equivalent accreditation list – ISO9001, Investors in people, PQASSO

**Signed on behalf of Franchisee:**

**Position within Organisation:**

**Date:**

**Signed on behalf of Cheshire East :**

**Position within Organisation:**

**Date:**



**Please send your completed form:**

**By Email:** [Partnerships@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Partnerships@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

**By Post:** Community Hub Franchise, Partnerships & Communities Team, c/o  
Municipal Buildings, Earle Street.

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# Cabinet

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>08 March 2017</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Steph Cordon - Head of Communities</b>
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	<b>Connecting Communities – Connected to Services- Initial Outcomes of Delivering Differently In Macclesfield</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	<b>Cllr Paul Bates- Communities and Health</b>

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## 1. Report Summary.

- 1.1 On 8 November 2016, Cabinet agreed to a new exciting approach to how we engage with communities through our Connecting Communities Strategy.
- 1.2 This report sets out some of the groundbreaking work we have already been doing to connect services to communities which is one of the key themes of the strategy. It provides the rationale and thinking about why we plan to do more of this in the future and recognises the great assets we have in our communities in terms of both people and facilities.
- 1.3 Cheshire East has been fortunate to be part of a national Central Government pilot called Delivering Differently in Neighbourhoods which has been assessing how communities can become more engaged in service delivery and policy and how this can influence priority and budget setting, and achieve economies of scope at a local level. This pilot which has operated in Macclesfield has given us strong evidence in how to:
  - Quantify and measure outcomes and put a financial value against them – this will support commissioning in the future
  - Engage with communities that have traditionally been hard to reach – to ensure that they can access services that fit their need
  - Deliver services in areas of most need in places where people need them the most
  - Build relationships and networks between community organisations themselves and with the public sector in localities to ensure that people get the best outcomes
  - Recognise the importance of community development officers, in engaging residents in developing and delivering new services and activities
  - Use a brand, 'Delivering Differently' in this case, to unite partners and get the key principles fully understood which enabled organisations to respond to the needs of a person
  - Recognise the importance of working with external organisations who can apply for a range of external funding the Council as a statutory body cannot apply for
  - Gradually implementing a model which is reliant on relationship building through partnership and resident buy in

- Championing of this approach by the Cabinet Member and Local Councillor involvement throughout the process has contributed to its current success.
- 1.4 At the heart of this has been the innovative approach to providing and enabling services to be delivered at the right time, by the right people and at the right place through community facilities which are seen as hubs by local communities. Working with neighbourhood partnerships to ensure local need is matched with the correct services being delivered from our Connected Community Centres is the key to accessing residents with preventative interventions.
- 1.5 Developing resident led initiatives where there are service provision gaps or requirements for additional interventions around mental and physical health and wellbeing tackling, social isolation and support the most vulnerable in society.
- 1.6 Key learning from this pilot has been that services and neighbourhood partnerships must work in collaboration to service provision and decision making to ensure the most effective delivery to local residents from our local Connected Community Centres.
- 1.7 None of this work would be possible without the absolute commitment and energy from local people and community organisations who have worked incredibly hard with us to make this happen and continue to do so.
- 1.8 Delivering Differently in Macclesfield has focussed on:
- Developing our local networks of buildings and outdoor spaces, from which together we can increase the range of targeted early intervention and prevention services delivered, in places where people need and will access them
  - Providing opportunities for people to skill up, gain confidence and raise aspirations to get jobs
  - Increasing the availability of physical activities in community settings
  - Providing more community activities which promote good mental wellbeing and social interaction
  - Targeted activities for people who suffer poor mental health
  - Increasing healthy eating activities and community cafes, luncheon clubs, etc.
  - Delivering more services in the community which increase independence for older people
  - Extending community activities and new services which offer support for families
  - Developing places where community links and activity are harnessed and extended
  - Using Neighbourhood Partnerships to provide collective community intelligence, ensuring our social franchise model offer for Connected Community Centres includes local organisations and is targeted in the right locations.



- 1.9 The range of services provided will increase, as the programme develops and more communities are involved in the co-design and delivery of local services. The Communities Team are working with community assets across the borough, and local partnerships and networks, across Cheshire East, are delivering a wide range of early intervention and prevention activities and services to address very local needs. Developing a borough-wide model, based on the learning above, will provide a consistent yet flexible strategic approach which can demonstrate the impact of provision.
- 1.10 Therefore, this model of delivery is one that is recommended to Cabinet as the blueprint for how we can connect services to communities. It recognises that each place and its people are unique and what works for one wont work for another, but sets out some key learning to inform our approach across Cheshire East.

“It is great to see local services working together to benefit the community”. David Rutley, Macclesfield MP.



## 2. Recommendations:

That Cabinet agree :

- (i) to celebrate the excellent progress made to date in ‘Delivering Differently in Macclesfield’.
- (ii) that this is the blueprint for the future model of delivery of connecting communities to services in the future.
- (iii) to thank and recognise the significant contribution that local community organisations and Ward Members in Macclesfield have made in making this such a success and continue to support this initiative.
- (iv) to recognise that Cheshire East commissioned services and resident led initiatives should where possible be directed to deliver from our Connected Community Centres based on local need.
- (v) to note our continued relationship with DCLG as they continue to monitor the progress of this work and regard it as a leading example of innovative community development.
- (vi) that the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members promote the success of this at a national level to share best practice and influence Central Government policy setting.

## 3. Other Options Considered.

- 3.1 As this is part of a national pilot working with 23 other Councils, there has been lots of opportunities for shared learning and best practice. This has helped to inform this approach and explore what options are best for Cheshire East and its diverse communities. The work on the ground to engage with the most hard to reach has been both challenging and rewarding in that imaginative methods to engage have been tried out as part of this.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation.**

- 4.1 To update on progress and agree a corporate approach to Connected to Services focussed on ensuring people and community organisations are embedded within local networks, providing mutual help and support.

#### **5. Background / Chronology.**

- 5.1 Cheshire East Council was successfully awarded grant funding of £90,000 through the Department of Communities and Local Government to deliver the Delivering Differently in Neighbourhoods (DDiN) programme. DDiN aims to transform public services at a neighbourhood level, with the involvement of communities to improve the quality and efficiency of public services, and meet the challenges of reduced public expenditure and rising customer demand.
- 5.2 DDiN was designed for local authorities to test ways of working innovatively to provide or design services in local neighbourhoods which could be sustainable over time, through co-production and delivering economies of scope. Being a national pilot for DCLG has enabled us to build up a strong relationship with their Local Service Transformation Team and to work with 23 other local authorities sharing best practice.
- 5.3 Macclesfield was chosen as a pilot area to test and implement this programme as it was recognised that pockets of deprivation alongside many affluent areas often divided communities with the stark difference between the two. It has provided an opportunity to engage intensively with the communities on the 4 estates in Macclesfield (Moss, Weston, Hurdsfield and Upton Priory estate).
- 5.4 The implementation phase of this pilot approach has been named 'Delivering Differently in Macclesfield' (DDiM), and is being delivered over 12 months, up to April 2017. The focus is on intensive engagement with hard to reach communities, upskilling residents and supporting local resident led initiatives, enabling local communities to become stronger. The delivery of this programme is being led and managed by the Partnerships and Communities Team, who have developed excellent local relationships and a partnership infrastructure which will sustain the work long term. To increase delivery during this pilot year, £60,000 of the initial DCLG grant has been used to commission an external organisation Healthbox who are providing 2 members of staff for 1 year, until the end of February 2017.
- 5.5 Delivering Differently in Macclesfield is currently a project with a set of key principles:
- a) To work in collaboration

- b) To tackle local priorities
- c) To support and develop resident led initiatives
- d) To coordinate service delivery

## 5.5 What has been achieved so far?

### To work in collaboration

5.5.1 Four community based neighbourhood partnerships have been set up with key stakeholders and Ward Members, in either Macclesfield wards or more importantly recognised priority areas in relation to deprivation. These partnerships have been tasked to work collaboratively locally to tackle issues brought forward in these areas. In Macclesfield currently four active neighbourhood partnerships have been established and meet twice every quarter.

Macclesfield South	Moss Rose Partnership
Macclesfield Hurdsfield	Hurdsfield Community Group
Macclesfield Weston and Ivy	Weston Estate Partnership
Broken Cross and Upton	FARUP (friends and residents of upton priory)

5.5.2 In addition to regular meetings, weekly Community Together Groups are held on each estate. Local groups and programmes that are in the process of being set up are offered continuous support to ensure sustainability and new initiatives are developed.

5.5.3 Macclesfield Community Network is connected digitally through Knowledgehub. Over 40 organisations share training, events, opportunities to bid for contracts collaboratively, and also offer each other peer support. A good example of how effective this digital network has been operationally is when each member was asked be part of the Participatory Budgeting (PB) exercise in Macclesfield. Over 70% of the network partners engaged to successfully work in collaboration to set the processes for the delivery of PB in Macclesfield.

### To tackle local priorities

5.5.4 The project team who are externally funded using the grant from DCLG have been asked to work under this brand rather than their own organisational brand to ensure sustainability of the key principles once the organisations contrat has come to an end.

5.5.5 Residents and partners have united under the branding and are using it in various ways to show how we are all working together on the ground to address local issues. This has been crucial in terms of taking down organisational boundaries and enables a multidisciplinary person centred approach from services.

5.5.6 Delivering Differently in Macclesfield has engaged with over 750 local people through local events and consultations, as part of a

comprehensive engagement programme. This has led to the development of four new community interest companies, which are now in the process of being set up, utilising the knowledge and enthusiasm of local residents to tackle local priorities.

5.5.7 Engagement work with local residents has led to improving services and community assets, bringing in external funding to deliver.

	Funding Acquired	Outputs achieved
Baby Yoga	£1,500	15 residents attended baby yoga
Nutrition Support – Healthy Lunch club	£1,000	88 residents attended healthy eating classes over 11 sessions
Green Gym Equipment Banbury Park	£16,000	25% amount of additional residents now using the park facilities
Action Station South Park	£50,000	40% amount of additional residents now using the park facilities

To support and develop resident led initiatives

5.5.8 All new resident led services being delivered that have been initiated through Delivering Differently in Macclesfield are being measured through the New Economy's Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) Model which allows organisations to evaluate projects in relation to financial return on investment. This enables organisations to demonstrate cost savings their project will make through outputs and outcomes they intend to achieve, from early intervention and preventative work. The costs associated with each of the resident led programmes have been sourced externally, or have been successful through Cheshire East Council's Participatory Budgeting initiative.

Service/Activity	Provider	Estimated Outcomes	Costs to deliver the project per annum	Savings to Statutory services per annum
Smoking Cessation Resident Led Groups	Local residents through the support from Healthbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health</li> <li>• A&amp;E attendance</li> <li>• Reduced hospital admissions</li> <li>• A&amp;E attendance all scenarios</li> <li>• Improved well-being of individuals</li> <li>• Improved family well-being</li> </ul>	<b>£3,608</b> Acquired through the Public Health OneYou contract	<b>£20,788</b>
Cognitive Behavioural	Local Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health</li> <li>• A&amp;E attendance</li> </ul>	<b>£1,625</b>	<b>£32,216</b>

Thearpy Support Group		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all scenarios</li> <li>• Reduced hospital admissions</li> <li>• Improved well-being of individuals</li> <li>• Improved family well-being</li> </ul>	Acquired through Participatory Budgeting	
Tinytearaways – (mums n tots with health theme)	Local Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved community well-being</li> <li>• Improved children's well-being</li> <li>• Reduced isolation</li> </ul>	<b>£850</b> Acquired through Participatory Budgeting	<b>£9,272</b>
Life Programme – (support addictive behaviours and socially isolated)	Local Volunteers through the support from Reach out and Recover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced incidents of crime</li> <li>• Reduced drug dependency</li> <li>• Reduced alcohol dependency</li> <li>• Reduced hospital admissions</li> <li>• Improved well-being of individuals</li> </ul>	<b>£10,000</b> Acquired through external funding	<b>£117,105</b>
Mental Health Awareness Training	Local Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved health outcomes from people in work</li> <li>• Mental health</li> </ul>	<b>£2,520</b> Acquired through DDiM support	<b>£16,183</b>
The Green in the Corner Dementia Cafe	Local Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved health outcomes from people in work</li> <li>• Improved well-being of individuals</li> <li>• Improved community well-being</li> </ul>	<b>£6,000</b> Acquired through DDiM support and Participatory Budgeting	<b>£29,551</b>

Weston Memories (Local community group based on remembrance and local history)	Local Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved Mental health</li> <li>Improved well-being of individuals</li> <li>Improved community well-being</li> </ul>	<b>£1,100</b> Acquired through DDiM support	<b>£13,017</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£25,703</b>	<b>£238,132</b>

5.5.9 Using CBA, enables us to provide a standard way of impact measurement for the early intervention and prevention initiatives that are part of this programme. Using this tool it is estimated based on the above seven initiatives, if they were delivered over the 5 years the cost savings of £238,132 compared with the overall project costs of £25,703 will provide a £212,429 over all saving. This is suggesting on average for every £1 spent on resident led initiatives, £9 can be saved through the early intervention and preventative work. These savings are in most instances non-cashable, but demonstrate that by delivering proactive services, we can achieve significant savings in reactive costs from high end services.

5.5.10 Additional external funding has also been sourced for:

- Three of the four newly established community interest companies (CiCs) have already secured funding, supported by the local community, of over £5,000 through Cheshire East Public Health's Participatory Budgeting exercise.
- Participatory Budgeting applicants, particularly non-successful applicants with ideas, are being supported to explore opportunities to find funding elsewhere. Also all successful applicants are being offered support to use the cost benefit analysis standardised measurement tool to demonstrate their impact and support the sustainability element of their project.
- A £15,000 application is currently through to the final stage of Cheshire Community Foundation to deliver a range of inter-generational lunch clubs and a family activity session at the Church of the Resurrection which was an identified need through the neighbourhood partnership. This will be a sustainable programme which will be taken on by local residents.

#### To coordinate service delivery

5.5.11 The neighbourhood partnerships will have a greater responsibility in supporting the social franchise model for Connected Community Centres. They will use statistical data and local intelligence to determine what services will be best placed to deliver from each franchisee. The future direction of Connected Community Centres, will be part of a future report. It is proposed that the criteria to become a Connected Community Centre needs to reflect where services need to be delivered, recognising issues such as being in an area of deprivation. An offer to become part of a Community Network will be provided to other buildings that do not meet this criteria.

## **6. Wards Affected and Local Ward Members**

- 6.1 The Strategy applies across the whole borough, although the focus is on the areas of most need at this stage. This report sets out the initial outcomes from the pilot approach in Macclesfield.

## **7. Implications of Recommendation**

### **7.1. Policy Implications**

- 7.1.1. The Strategy sets out ways to meet Outcome 1, Our Communities are Strong and Supportive. It underpins the Sustainable Community Strategy, Ambition for All and support the delivery of many other policies.

### **7.2. Legal Implications**

- 7.2.1 When considering any proposal the Council must have due regard to its equality duties. The Public Sector Equality Duty as set out at S149 of the Equality Act 2010, states:

“(1) A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to—

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it...

- 7.2.2 An Equality Impact Assessment would assist in evidencing that the Council has regard to the PSED when deciding whether the decisions made meet those equality duties.

- 7.2.3 Any scheme proposals which include the Council procuring goods and services will need to be compliant with the Council's own Finance and Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

- 7.2.4 Should the proposed scheme support Delivering Differently initiatives by allowing delivery via community venues any state aid implications will need to be identified and addressed, when the scheme is elaborated in more detail.

### **7.3 Financial Implications**

- 7.3.1 There are no further financial implications arising from this report. The resource implications were included in the report on the Connecting Communities Strategy on 8 November 2016.

#### **7.4 Equality Implications**

- 7.4.3 There are no specific equality implications and due regard has been taken to our Equality Duty.

#### **7.5 Rural Community Implications**

- 7.5.3 Further work will cover all of Cheshire East and will develop new services and activities in rural communities to meet specific local needs.

#### **7.6 Human Resources Implications**

- 7.6.1 There are no specific HR implications.

#### **7.7 Public Health Implications**

- 7.7.1 This has significant positive public health outcomes and the work undertaken around targeting those that are hardest to reach and in the poorest health has been really innovative. Public Health are very keen to remain fully engaged in community based commissioning at a locality level and to ensure co-production and design of local services.

#### **7.8 Other Implications**

None

### **8 Risk Management**

- 8.1 Risks are identified through the Partnerships and Communities Business Planning process and are logged, reviewed and monitored.

### **9 Access to Information/Bibliography**

- 9.2 Connecting Communities Strategy agreed by Cabinet on 8 November 2016.

### **10 Contact Information**

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

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**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL****Cabinet Member Decision Paper**

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**Date of Meeting: 11 July 2017****Report of: Fiona Reynolds, Director of Public Health****Subject/Title: Social Franchise Award proposals – Connected Community Centres****Portfolio Holder: Paul Bates – Cabinet Member for Finance and Communities**

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**1. Report Summary**

- 1.1. This report is to determine the award of social franchisee status to four applicants which meet the criteria approved by Cheshire East Council.
- 1.2. The report covers the first round of grants for 2017/18 in line with Cheshire East Council's revised Social franchise Model. There are a total of 4 grants recommended to be awarded.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. To award the Connected Community Centre social franchise to the following:
  - St Barnabas Church – Crewe
  - The Welcome Café – Knutsford, Longridge
  - Jubilee House, Wishing Well – Crewe
  - St Johns Church – Macclesfield, Weston and Ivy
- 2.2. To award a grant of a maximum of £5,000 over 2 years to reserve the use of facilities for the delivery of early intervention and prevention services.

**3. Other Options Considered**

- 3.1. The proposed organisations have been selected by local neighbourhood partnerships made up of key stakeholders in that locality. No other appropriate venues in these locality wanted to be considered for franchise status. An evaluation process is in place if more than one organisation express interest in becoming a Connected Community Centre within a identified priority location (Appendix 1, page 8).

**4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1. The venues below, with support from their local network / neighbourhood partnerships, have agreed to become a Connected Community Centre and adhere to the criteria set out in the revised social franchise model (Appendix 1).
  - St Barnabas Church – Crewe
  - The Welcome Café – Knutsford, Longridge
  - Jubilee House – Crewe
  - St Johns Church – Macclesfield, Weston and Ivy
- 4.2. The spend will be determined by the local partnership to ensure that local priorities are being tackled through the most appropriate and effective early intervention and prevention services available.

## **5. Background/Chronology**

- 5.1. The Cabinet Member for Communities approved a pilot social franchise model for Community Hubs on the 20th July 2015. A model was adopted and monitored for development.
- 5.2. Cabinet agreed to a set of changes based on learning from the pilot franchise model in the Connected to Services report on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 (Appendix 2).
- 5.3. Detailed amendments to the franchise model have been submitted for portfolio holder approval on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017.
- 5.4. The following venues have agreed to adhere to all of the criteria, offer and expectations and completed applications set out in Appendix 1:
  - St Barnabas Church – Crewe
  - The Welcome Café – Knutsford, Longridge
  - Jubilee House – Crewe
  - St Johns Church – Macclesfield, Weston and Ivy
- 5.5. The financial offer set out will last for 2 years only and within that time we will be supporting the Connected Community Centres to find sustainable funds and activities to continue to provide local residents with a range on priority tackling services.

## **6. Wards Affected and Local Ward Members**

- 6.1. Crewe Central, Knutsford, Macclesfield Weston and Ivy Wards for proposed Connected Community Centres.

## **7. Risk Management & Implications of Recommendation**

- 7.1. **Policy Implications**

Procurement policies will be adhered **too** in relation to the financial payment.

## **7.2. Legal Implications**

The Council has the power to award grants to organisations using its general power of competence in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011. In exercising the power the Council must satisfy its public law duties. In essence this means that in making the decision the Council must have taken into account only relevant considerations, followed procedural requirements, acted for proper motives and not acted unreasonably. An application process is a clear statement of the criteria that the Council is applying and is essential if the Council is to defend any challenge to its decision making process.

Franchises and grants to reserve the use of facilities for the delivery of early intervention and prevention services are being awarded to defined organisations following an application process and against set criteria. By entering into a formal grant agreement with the Council the organisations can be monitored and required to report back to the Council upon their compliance with the franchise requirements and expenditure of the grant. The decision making process was delegated to the Portfolio Holder in order to ensure that decisions can be made expeditiously and at the appropriate level.

Grant funding to organisations based on the application of the Council's published scheme satisfies the Council's public law duties.

## **7.3. Financial Implications**

The £5,000 grants provided over four singular £1,250 payments in advance made over two years for each of the four proposed franchisees using an grant offer agreement which will allow Cheshire East to recover funds if necessary, this will be funded from the Connected Community Centres reserves which were approved as part of the Connected Community Strategy by Cabinet on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016. This will amount to £10,000 per year for two years equating to £20,000. There is sufficient funding in this earmarked reserve for up to 30 Connected Community Centres. Pay

## **7.4. Equality Implications**

Application has been open to all asset owners in 25 Connected Community identified priority areas of deprivation and across our towns.

## **7.5. Rural Community Implications**

Not all rural areas can be offered this support as the resource needs to concentrate initially on the in Connected Community identified priority locations including the top 25% areas of deprivation.

**7.6. Public Health Implications**

The four proposed Connected Community Centres will be the flagship venues for public health service delivery in communities. The consideration of these venues in future commissioned contracts as delivery points to achieve outcomes will be of benefit to local hard to reach residents, achieving a greater reach and assisting with outcomes for the commissioned providers.

**7.7. Risk Management**

All risks will be mitigated through continuous monitoring of the franchise model.

**8. Access to Information**

8.1. Revised Social Franchise model application form that outlines offer and expectations (Appendix 1).

8.2. Connected to Services Report signed of by cabinet 8<sup>th</sup> March (Appendix 2)

**9. Contact Information**

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

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