

Stronger Communities Steering Group Annual Report and briefing

Background

The Stronger Communities programme of the Oxford Strategic Partnership (OSP) is targeted at the areas of Oxford with the worst outcomes – whether these are outcomes for health, educational attainment, income or life expectancy. The aim is to work together to improve those outcomes. The areas of focus for this work are

- The Leys
- Rose Hill
- Littlemore
- Barton
- Wood Farm
- Northway

At the beginning of 2016-17 partners stated their ambitions for the year ahead and an action plan was drawn up. In general, the actions were completed successfully. In reviewing those actions in mid-2017 it was decided that it was a good time to re-appraise the aims and ambitions of the Stronger Communities Group. This coincided with the review of the Oxford Strategic Partnership which took place in 2017. A discussion paper was circulated among partners and comments were used to develop a fresh approach to the work. The group met for discussion of new proposals in December 2017 and this paper sets out the agreed way forward.

A high level of motivation and enthusiasm from a range of partners continues and their work has been informed and challenged by the recommendations of the Health Inequalities Commission, reported in November 2016. Val Johnson coordinated this work until her retirement in July 2017 and her contribution will be greatly missed.

Aims for 2018-19

- Get health into every project
- Make access and outcome more equitable
- Promote cohesion

Our way of working

There are now very well-established Community Partnerships in The Leys, Barton, Rose Hill, Littlemore, Wood Farm and Northway. Most also have very active Health and Wellbeing Partnerships who focus on projects and prevention initiatives in their area. There are also Youth Partnerships in many of these areas. These partnerships each have local action plans and community newsletters, coordinated by the Communities and Neighbourhoods Team at the City Council.

The Stronger Communities group regards these local community partnerships as a valuable vehicle for important work to address local inequalities. They are the key to working with local people and agencies on local issues. They are the bridge between strategy and action.

The Community Partnerships are:

	Community	Health and Wellbeing	Youth Partnership
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	Partnership	Group	
The Leys	✓	✓	✓
Rose Hill	✓	✓	✓
Barton	Temporarily suspended during Barton Healthy New Town project	✓	✓
Littlemore	✓	✓	✓
Wood Farm	✓	✓	✓
East Oxford	X	X	✓
Northway	✓	X	X
Cotteslowe	Community Association only	X	✓

The Stronger Communities group agree that these local community partnerships could be influenced / informed by the Stronger Communities group members so that local priorities could be delivered. These local groups use local data to show local need and therefore lead local implementation of City wide or County wide strategies. These include

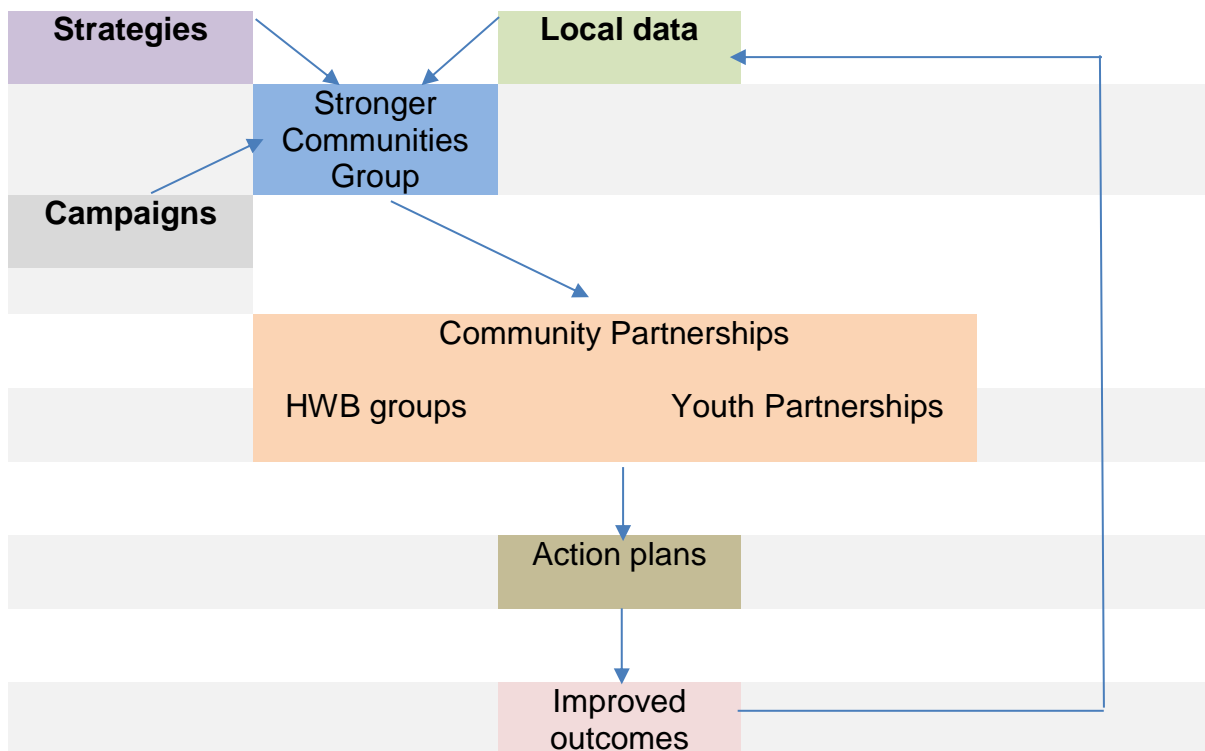
- Oxfordshire Health Inequalities Commission report
- Director of Public Health Annual Report
- Children and Young People Plan (City plan)
- City Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-20 (schools, leisure, parks)
- City Culture Strategy (in development) (e.g. Dance, mental wellbeing)
- Green Spaces Strategy (to 2028)
- Environmental Protection and Biodiversity plan

The Stronger Communities group can also suggest that the HWB groups engage in campaigns on relevant topics – such as Change4Life, One You, Dry January etc. These are already being featured at local events such as Leys Fair, the Barton Bash.

Local needs assessment

The Stronger Communities Group has always championed use of robust data and information to assess need in local areas. The Community HWB groups have based their action plans on local data for example, showing ward level information on life expectancy, rates of preventable disease, uptake of services etc. The Stronger Communities group members are now influencing members of the Community Partnerships to access easily available data directly so that they have the most up to date and relevant information on appropriate topics when they need it e.g. through the Oxfordshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment or interactive data sources such as PHE Local Health <http://www.localhealth.org.uk/#v=map13;l=en>

Summary: Stronger Communities way of working



Task and Finish project - Making Every Contact Count (MECC)

The Task and Finish proposal from the Stronger Communities group was accepted by Oxford Strategic Partnership in January 2018. This will build on the approach to MECC being used in Barton which includes:

- Introductory meeting of potential trainees (90mins). In Barton the invitees are Health Champions, anyone who has already completed “Identification and Brief Advice Training for Alcohol and Ssmoking”, others with public facing work roles.
- Face to face training (half day)
- Online training if appropriate.

This is being delivered free of charge by Jackie Prosser as part of the NHS Sustainability and Transformation (STP) work.

At a recent meeting of the Stronger Communities group it was agreed that Stronger Communities would offer to train

- All local HWB partnership members
- Youth Ambition Team
- City Council staff – ASBIT and Tenancy Support team (linked to a separate project under the auspices of Health Inequalities Commission group)
- Leisure Partnership board nominees e.g. swimming coaches
- Community Centre staff involved with HWB partnerships.

Related projects.

The Stronger Communities group doesn't work in isolation. Over the several years that partnership work has focussed on specific local communities in Oxford there has been development of a range of projects which are engaging and improving outcomes for local populations. These projects each have their own governance and reporting arrangements and do not need a specific link to Stronger Communities, but it seems helpful to keep an overview.

The Stronger Communities group members are involved in several of these projects and it was agreed that they would keep each other up to date on a range of work. This will hopefully increase effectiveness, reduce duplication and ensure good use of resources. The projects include:

- a. Barton Healthy New Town (Grosvenor, CCG, City Council, Public Health)
- b. Health Inequalities Commission City Project (CCG City locality, Public Health and City Council)
- c. Social prescribing led by OxFed and the CCG
- d. Promoting physical activity for preventing ill health – including exercise on referral for people with diabetes (CCG and OxSPA)
- e. Benefits advice project (Health Inequalities Commission Implementation Group)
- f. Controlling Migration Fund (City Council and partners)
- g. Sugar Smart City (Good Food Oxford, City Council, Public Health)
- h. Cycling City and other Active Travel initiatives (City Council, Public Health)
- i. LEAP - addressing fuel poverty, (City Council)

Members of the group

Jackie Wilderspin (Chair) Public Health. Link to Oxford Strategic Partnership
Maggie Dent, Clinical Commissioning Group
Ian Brooke, Oxford City Council
Dave Growcott, Oxford City Council Communities Team
Dani Granito, Oxford City Council Policy Team
Richard Kuziara, Public Health
Kate Austin, Public Health

Kathy Shaw will be invited to join the group and explore OCVA role in this work, including Making Every Contact Count

Jackie Wilderspin, March 2018