

Market Drayton Resilient Communities

1. In December 2015, the NHS set out to ensure that health and care services met the health and wellbeing needs of local populations. To do this, every health and care system in England is producing a Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), showing how local services will change and become sustainable over the next five years. The STP will drive maintainable change in services to achieve long-term health improvements. As part of the local Shropshire STP, the Neighbourhood Transformation Group has two areas of relevant work:-

- **Resilient Communities and Prevention** – improving health and wellbeing of local communities
- **Community Fit** – Delivering care closer to home through sustainable primary care and community health and care services

2. The Resilient Communities and Prevention work aims to increase the number of people who are supported in their communities to relieve pressure on over-stretched services with a view to improving the health and well-being of people in Shropshire and of saving money.

3. The Objectives are:

- To ensure that the structures, capacity and co-ordination are in place to support families and individuals at the first point of need (primary care) within their communities
- To reduce the demand on more intensive and acute interventions (such as A&E and Hospital admissions) by increasing the capacity of easily accessible support within the community.
- To enable health and social care providers to refer people to community resources.
- To work together to ensure that there are assets and resources in our communities that can be used to create the best possible outcomes for vulnerable people
- To maximise collaborative working by all organisations to achieve shared outcomes
- To use local intelligence to build up an understanding of priorities and progress to inform future service provision.
- To improve local communication, knowledge and networking to reduce duplication and by working together to fill any identified gaps in service provision.

4. Oswestry Pilot Work

The Resilient Communities approach has been piloted in Oswestry, where they have divided the approach into two broad areas, Children and Young People and Older People.

Steve Latham-White of the Community Enablement team says:-

“Oswestry was one of the first towns to adopt a “Resilient Communities” approach. It is important to remember that we are not coming in with something new, merely a vehicle to support joint working between Public Services and the community. We recognise that there are wonderful things already happening and we just want to support more good work. We

have a very well established and proactive steering group which allows for good collaboration, but we retain an agile approach to the work through topic specific sub groups. Feedback has been very positive and well received by the community. We have found that by working as a team we are starting to see positive results. New networking opportunities present on a daily basis alongside new initiatives.

It is a very exciting time for communities as never before have so many people felt so empowered. We are keen to ensure that our relationships are on an equal footing of mutual respect and responsibility. Real change has been possible without the need to get too hung up on finances due to shared responsibility for the issue, and a collaborative approach to finding the solution, so often the solution is already available.

We have the added benefit of being the pilot location for new health initiatives such as 'Social Prescribing'. This is a well-recognised national scheme and Shropshire Council is the lead authority for Public Health England in the West Midlands. Working with public and community sector in a targeted way has really brought great opportunities to us as a town and more importantly the community. The next step is to roll this out to the market towns across the north of the county."

5. Market Drayton

A Market Drayton Resilient Communities Steering Group has been formed and has met twice to discuss the best approach in Market Drayton. It has been agreed that the group needs to discover what services are currently available in the town. To help with this a Networking Event is being arranged for the 24th April 2017 at the Phoenix Centre between 10:00 and 12:00pm. It is hoped this wider network will become associated partners and inform the work of the Steering Group. The Networking Event will enable groups to register on the new Shropshire Choices Website, to become part of an extensive information resource for professionals and residents alike.

6. Resources

Shropshire Council has committed substantial officer hours to support the implementation of this work and the Shropshire Council Community Enablement Team is facilitating the work across the county. There is no new money to support this work, the premise is that by improving the way all services are delivered it is possible to achieve the desired outcomes within current budgetary constraints.

Resilient Communities Action Planning

7. Market Drayton Community Partnership

The MD Resilient Communities Steering Group requests that the Resilient Communities work forms part of the MDCP portfolio of projects and that the MD Community Partnership acts as a coordinating body and resource of local information and authentication for the local resilient communities work.

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