Longbenton Estate Summary Priorities Plan

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Project Summary

Justice Prince CIC has worked in partnership with local people and local organisations to deliver a Local Conversation Project in Longbenton Estate.

This was a 20 week project (March to July 2014) funded by the People’s Health Trust with money raised by Health Respect through the Health Lottery: 51 Community Interest Companies raising money to address health inequalities across England, Scotland and Wales through the Health Lottery.

Participants

1,157 residents have participated in the project: 794 via LAG activities; 363 via existing groups / organisations / focus group discussion.

Participants have been of all ages and all sectors of the community including children, young people, (including those not in employment, education or training), offenders / ex-offenders, alcohol / substance users, older people, residents of sheltered accommodation, employed & long term unemployed, people with a range of health / mental health issues, disabled people, people from different cultural backgrounds, parents, carers, single parents, different religious denominations.

Agreed Priority Themes: Agreed Activity / Project:

1a Environmental Issues eg messy gardens, lack of gardening / growing knowledge, grass left after cutting, lack of flowers on the estate, dog dirt & litter.
   The Patchwork Garden Project: Environmental Champions. Training local people as environmental champions to support others who want to improve their gardens & environment. Develop Oxford Community Garden into ‘Environmental Training Hub’ providing support & equipment loan scheme. Improve community space eg planting flowers etc. Steering group of local people will develop & manage the project.

1b Unemployment / Lack of jobs / apprenticeships / training for young people particularly excluded young people.
   Patchwork Garden Project: Environmental Support Team. Set up locality based Environmental Support Team eg creating apprenticeships for local young people. Team will support Environmental Champions delivering environmental services. Wider employability support will be provided from Oxford Centre a central location.

1c Lack of access to / Limited choice of fruit & vegetables
   Patchwork Garden Project: Fruit & Veg. Delivery Service. Sell fruit & veg. At the Oxford Community Garden 2 days per week: Wednesday & Saturday. Volunteers will provide delivery service to older / vulnerable people using ‘butcher’ bikes with baskets.

1d Support for Older / Vulnerable people Eg Gardening / clearing paths
   The Patchwork Garden Project: Environmental Champions & Environmental Support Team (see above).

2 Isolation of Older People
   Increasing Connectivity Project. Activity programme in 5 sheltered accommodation venues as agreed by residents. Community Connector & volunteers supporting increased connection into wider community. Older people reps will form a project steering group to develop & manage the project.

3 Lack of activities / opportunities for children & young people including disabled children, families
   Longbenton Estate Community Chest Funding Pot: £20,000 (to fund max. 80% of total activity costs) Clear simple application process & eligibility criteria will be agreed. Reps from Longbenton Community Network will form a grant panel to make decisions.

4 Community Cohesion
   Longbenton Community Chest Funding Pot, (see above) To fund community wide events eg Longbenton Carnival.

Events & Activities

A diverse programme of activities and events has taken place at varied locations and venues throughout the estate including those shown on the map overleaf.