



Neighbourhoods



Decision  
Making



People



Services



Voluntary, Community  
and Faith

Welcome to the last edition of the year.

The Communities Team have had an exciting year, developing the Neighbourhood Partnerships across Cheshire East and linking in with Care Communities who are working closely with the team looking at health priorities across the borough.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to working with you again in the New Year.

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## Commissioned Services

We have a wide range of commissioned services within Cheshire East Council. Each service is regularly monitored and reviewed. If you would like more information on any of the services mentioned below, please contact [commissioning@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:commissioning@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

### Cheshire East All Age Carers Hub

To increase the universal support to carers within the borough, which enables them to feel supported within their caring role, preventing carer breakdown and providing a break from caring. These support services are designed to help carers continue in their caring role, for as long as they choose and reduce the impact the caring role can have on a carers own health and wellbeing.

Support mechanisms include; 1-2-1 support, information and advice, access to training and activities, specialist dementia support and 24 hour chat line for carer support.

### Cheshire Advocacy Hub

The service provides a single point of access to the Cheshire Advocacy Hub and advocacy for people qualifying for the following statutory interventions:

- Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) including Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)
- Independent Mental Health Advocacy (IMHA)
- Care Act Advocacy

### Integrated Sexual Health Services

The Integrated Sexual Health Service delivers statutory, open access contraception and testing/treatment for sexually transmitted infections in various locations throughout the Borough.

### Short Break Services for Disabled Children

Short break services provide disabled children and young people with:

- Positive and safe things to do and places to go
- The opportunity to spend time with friends, to develop personally, socially and reduce isolation
- The chance to undertake new activities and have new experiences

These short break services can take place in a community setting; the child's own home, the home of an approved carer or in a residential setting. They provide parents and families of disabled children and young people with a necessary and valuable break from their caring responsibilities.

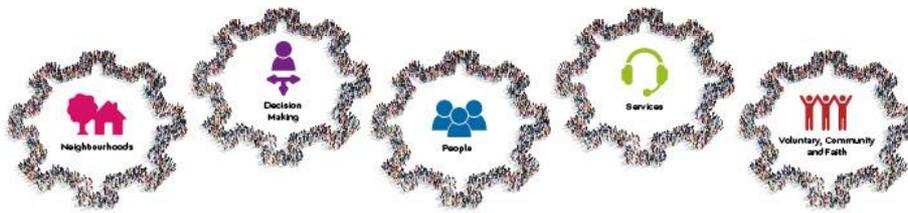
Providers:

- Carers Trust 4 All
- Cheshire Buddy Scheme
- Cheshire Centre for Independent Living
- Cheshire & Warrington Carers Trust
- Ruby's Fund
- Space4Autism
- Urban Air
- Wishing Well

### Whole Family Domestic Abuse Service

Supporting families affected by domestic abuse specialising in:

- Identifying the signs and symptoms of domestic abuse
- Assessing the needs of family members
- Responding to practical issues such as housing, legal aid and financial difficulties



### **Children's Independent Visitors & Advocates** (current provider is the Children's Society)

The advocacy service will ensure that; children and young people are aware of, and able to access, appropriate services, advice and information, which empowers them to ensure their views and wishes are heard and reflected in the decision making about their lives.

An independent visitor service will provide advice and befriend those children and young people where it is considered in their best interests to provide additional and independent support.

### **Emotional Healthy Children and Young People Services**

The service offers support to all children and young people who may need advice or help in order to achieve emotional health and wellbeing offering:

- Support for universal services to empower them to recognise and respond to emotional harm or mental health concerns;
- Systemic change within children and young people's universal services to improve emotional wellbeing for the 0-19 population;
- Direct and indirect parent/carer support through targeted intervention and training for family support services, enabling parents to positively support their child's emotional development

Providers include:

- Cheshire Wirral Partnership
- Middlewich Academy
- Just Drop in
- Vysion
- CLASP

**Emotionally Healthy Children and Young People** (Previously Emotionally Healthy schools) contract is provided by Cheshire Wirral Partnership

An early intervention programme designed to support children and young people of Cheshire East who require low level support around their mental health and emotional wellbeing. This may include therapeutic services, online or digital support peer support, and step-up and down support or family support. The model will build upon the successes of Phase 1 and 2 (Emotionally Healthy Schools) and will extend the offer to include those children not in school, either due to age or circumstance.

### **Childrens Residential Homes**

This service provides care and support to the cared for children and young people within residential homes. The homes must provide accommodation, care and support for 365 days of the year, 24 hours a day. The homes are spread across the borough and will have a range of young people in residence with individual needs and behaviours.

### **Care at Home Framework for Disabled Children and Young People**

The Care at Home Contract ensures that effective, responsive care and support in individual's homes is delivered by externally commissioned, independent, Care Quality Commission registered care at home providers. They will assist children and young people within their own homes, maintaining their independence as much as possible. This is done by providing care staff who have compassion, courage, good communication, commitment and competence, who will work pro-actively with children, young people and their families, to meet their needs and deliver real outcomes.

Providers in this contract are:

- AMG Consultancy Services Ltd
- Carers Trust 4 All
- Courtyard Care Ltd
- HG Care Services Ltd



- Jane Lewis Healthcare
- Promises of Care
- Raids Community Care Ltd
- Sugarman Health and Wellbeing Ltd

### **Carer Respite Community Based**

Community respite is in place to provide support for carers and service users in their own home or, in an appropriate environment away from home. This could be a community centre, learning centre or access opportunities in the local community. Support can vary from a few hours a day to a whole day.

Providers Include:

- Acacia Homecare
- 1<sup>st</sup> Enable
- Carers Trust 4 All
- Sage Care Ltd
- Evolving Care
- Ansar Projects
- Rossendale Trust
- The Wishing Well Project
- Liberty Support Services
- Fanco Ltd.

### **Domiciliary Care & Support for residents at 5 Extra Care Housing Schemes**

Provide high quality care and support to residents in Extra Care Housing. To provide an alternative to residential care for older people, who are still independent or can be independent with support. A contract is in place to support older people and residents at 5 Extra Care housing schemes.

### **Domiciliary Care and Support for Residents at Heath View Extra Care Scheme in Congleton**

Provide high quality care and support to residents in Extra Care Housing. To provide an alternative to residential care for older people, who are still independent or can be independent with support.

### **Universal Information & Advice Service**

The Information and Advice Service should ensure that residents have access to a clear single pathway to make sure that their needs are assessed appropriately.

The service must support the following outcomes;

- Help residents receive the benefits they are entitled to, including assistance for those requiring help with applications and appeals
- Improve the financial capability of individuals and help residents with debt management
- The main provider is Cheshire East Citizens Advice Bureau.

### **Infrastructure Service for the Voluntary, Community & Faith Sector**

The service provides support, expertise and is a resource to third sector organisations, including their volunteers, to achieve the best outcomes for local residents. The provider for this contract is Cheshire East CVS.



### **Rapid Response**

Rapid Response assist in a prompt discharge 'home from hospital' for service users, who are medically fit and assists in reducing the pressures on hospitals. The providers for this contract are:

- Evolving Care
- AMG
- Affinity Care

### **One You**

Working to improve the health of residents, tackling health inequalities and reducing demand for NHS and social care services. It focuses on early intervention to help residents avoid future ill-health, by supporting them to drink less alcohol, eat well, lose weight, move more and be smoke free.

### **Assistive Technology**

The aim of the service is to ensure that individuals who can benefit from Assistive Technology are targeted with appropriate equipment and support, in order to:

- Enable them to feel safe and secure (as far as possible) in their own home and in the wider community.
- To use technology as an enabler to help them maintain their independence and health and wellbeing (including supporting the effectiveness of reablement services).
- To support individuals without removing their autonomy or unduly compromising their privacy.

### **Care at Home Prime Provider & Framework Provider Contract**

The Care at Home Contract ensures that effective and responsive support in individual's homes is delivered by externally commissioned, independent, Care Quality Commission registered care at home providers, who will assist people in remaining in their own homes for longer and maintaining their independence.

### **Support Services for People with Sensory Impairments** (DSN)

The service is a co-ordinated sensory support offer for people (including support for adults, children and young people) with sensory impairments across Cheshire East. DSN provide a 'one-stop shop' for residents experiencing vision and/or hearing loss and impairment.

The range of interventions may include:

- Increasing life skills
- Promoting Independence
- Stabilizing or slowing down loss of independence and coping strategies
- Loss, Bereavement or Trauma
- Balancing Expectations
- Supporting people with sensory impairment(s) to participate in group activities, and use local resources.

### **Support for Adults who are Socially Isolated- Pathfinder Cheshire East**

This contract is provided by Cheshire Community Council, trading as Cheshire Community Action (CCA) The service supports older people and vulnerable adults i.e. those suffering with mental health issues; learning disability; dementia, physical disability in order for them to live as independently as possible, for as long as possible.

### **Healthwatch Cheshire East including Independent Health Complaints Advocacy Service**

The primary purpose of the Healthwatch service is to act as an independent champion and voice for residents, in order to help monitor/shape local health and social care services.



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### **Environmental Enforcement**

To support a reduction in the number of complaints and concerns raised regarding littering, fly tipping and dog fouling across the borough and supporting residents to maintain behaviour change

### **Learning Disability Respite Service**

The provision of accommodation based with a learning disability / autism who may display behaviour that challenges, including those with mental health condition. This service element is one part of a new Adult Respite Support model that focuses on providing modern and flexible respite support.

### **Handyperson Service**

Provide low level building related support around the homes of vulnerable older people, through minor adaptations.

Referrals are made into the service by health or social care professionals for clients who have an eligible social care or health need and where this is critical to regain or maintain a person's independence

### **Crewe Nurseries**

To provide excellent quality nursery provision in Crewe, that will increase the availability of support to vulnerable families and children.

The services have been commissioned to provide the best start in life for children by supporting good quality early years education and care this should have a lasting impact on education, social and behavioural outcomes.

### **Provision of Mental Health Floating Support Services**

This Mental Health Floating Support Service focuses on early intervention and prevention, supporting the development of innovative solutions to best meet the needs of people with mental health support needs.

The service aims to aiming to:

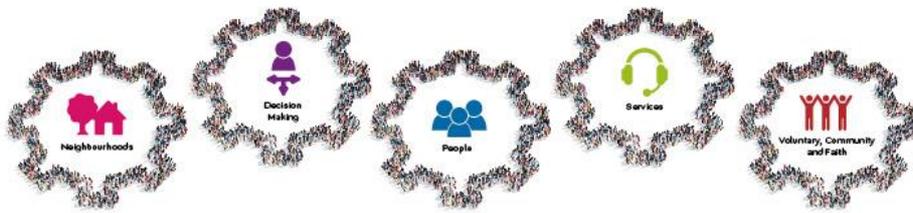
- Improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and with mental health support needs.
- Promote people's independence (and life skills) and prevent the escalation of needs thereby reducing demand on social care and health services.

### **Accommodation with Care**

To provide accommodation with Care for Adults and Older People, that provides high quality, safe and personalised accommodation that promotes choice, dignity, control and quality of life for all Residents.

### **Direct Payment Support Service**

Provide Independent Living Advice and support to adults wishing to receive a personalised budget through a direct payment, in order that they can purchase services to meet their own care and support needs. Also to provide information, advice and guidance to self-funders.



## Multi – Faith Conference

The Communities Team held a multi-faith conference as part of [Inter Faith Week](#) on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019, at Holmes Chapel Community Centre, where more than 140 people attended.



The event was a brilliant opportunity to celebrate the incredible diversity and richness of faith communities within Cheshire East. All faiths came together to celebrate and share the contribution they make to help address loneliness and isolation in our communities. To view a series of images from the day, have a look on our [YouTube channel](#).

The conference focused on a number of workshops where gaps in services across Cheshire East were identified. The first workshop was for people to highlight the issues of loneliness and isolation within their neighbourhood.

### Main Gaps Identified:

- Good Neighbours Schemes
- Young People (Crewe/Congleton/Macclesfield)
- Transport (Isolated/Rural Locations)
- Cultural Barrier (Language & Context)

The second workshop encouraged everyone to suggest their top three ideas to take forward as a shared outcome of the conference.

### Main Priorities Identified:

- Sharing Assets, skills, knowledge, intelligence by networking
- Flexible and shared relational transport schemes
- -Occupy and use empty community spaces (shops) for pop up community
- -Community Celebrations/ Street Parties

All the ideas discussed at the conference gave delegates food for thought about how they can work collaboratively to address loneliness and isolation and apply for funding from '[Bright Idea Fund](#)'. This fund provides an opportunity for local residents who wish to share their skills, interest and passions through volunteering to promote or deliver projects or events that will improve the health and wellbeing of their community.

A report has been produced to highlight the finding of the event and how we will continue to work on the priorities highlighted at this event.

Evaluation information revealed that people found networking very useful and would appreciate similar sessions, at a local level.

We already have similar networking groups [Neighbourhood Partnerships](#) (NP's), which bring together a range of partners including the Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) sector, Police, children's centres, schools, Youth Services, local elected members, residents and businesses.

The purpose is to understand local priorities based on local intelligence. We work as a partnership to create local projects, that impact on those local priorities. Agencies and local residents work collaboratively to create and tailor projects to suit that community



We have 14 Neighbourhood Partnerships across Cheshire East. Each of them serves an area across the borough where we have identified a need to reduce health inequality.

We would encourage anyone with an interest in helping to address the health and social issues of their area to attend. You can find the dates of your next NP meeting along with action plans and contact details for all areas on our [website](#).

## Town and Parish Conference

The second Town and Parish Council Conference of 2019 was held on 20th November at the Canalside Conference Centre in Middlewich. Items on the agenda included:-

- Cheshire East Council update
- Cheshire East Council Pre-budget consultation
- Community Governance Review
- Presentation by Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC)
- Cheshire East Council Mayoralty

Representatives from 44 Town and Parish Councils attended the conference. Directors and Heads of Service from the Council were available to answer questions and hear the views of different Parishes. The Question and Answer session was lively and it was interesting to hear from so many different councillors and clerks.

The next Conference will be held during the Spring of 2020, which will be an interactive event, covering various popular subjects. The Communities Team can be contacted for Town and Parish Council matters on [townandparishcouncils@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:townandparishcouncils@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

## Good News Stories

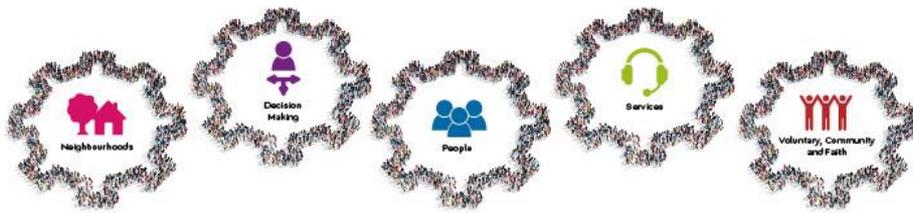
### Good Gym

Back in October the Communities Team helped set up a group of runners, begin the Good Gym Story. [Good Gym](#) has groups of people who enjoy running, around the country, which combine regular exercise with helping our communities. Good Gym (Crewe) meet every Wednesday at 6.30pm at the Crewe Town Council buildings on Forge Street Crewe. You don't have to be super fit to join the group, as they have a running group and a walking group, which both leave at the same time.



The group run to their organised activity, which could be involved with activities such as decorating at a local charity, helping sort clothes for the homeless, visiting the elderly in a nursing home or clearing an outside space. They then run back to the Town Council building, where they will warm down.

If you're a community organisation and have a physical task that Good Gym could help with, or a runner yourself who is up for the challenge, then please contact Good Gym Crewe via their website.



## Underwood West Library

The School's Principal, Laura Jones, has secured considerable funding for a new library for the children, from a local businessman who was keen to see the development of reading in this area of Crewe. The investment has enabled the school to purchase several hundred brand new, exciting, relevant reading materials – including newspaper and magazine subscriptions. The library that the school have created is a vibrant, modern appealing place to spend time thanks to the generosity of their benefactor. Mrs Jones and the staff at Underwood are keen to not only promote a pleasure for reading within school but also, within the school community too. Families with preschool age siblings will be invited to join the school library and borrow books during the twice-weekly library sessions. They have made sure that they have a wide variety of books that span from preschool to young adults' interest levels. They're excited to continue to develop curious learners, through developing a pleasure in reading. Through the support of the new 'year 6 librarians', the children will be able to access the library at lunch times and within their class timetable. The opening of the Library was on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> of November 2019. The pictures attached show the children visiting the library during opening day. The library is just another exciting new facility at school following the opening of their third building last summer, which hosts a multi-purpose cookery and training room facility, as well as brand new learning areas. Two of our Community Liaison Officers are pictured here at the opening of the Library.

## Nantwich on its way to becoming a Dementia Friendly Town

The Communities Team are working hard alongside partner agencies to make Nantwich a dementia friendly community. The two big drivers at the moment include the free offer of Dementia Friends Awareness workshops to any business, school or organisation in Nantwich. The workshop takes 45 minutes to complete and then you are officially supporting the campaign to gain a greater understanding of those experiencing dementia. The other key focus is to turn Nantwich blue next May, in time to celebrate Dementia Action Week. There are a few partners already involved, including the Nantwich Museum, Elim Church, Nantwich in Bloom, St Mary's Church, Nantwich Soroptomists, Wishing Well and staff at Morrisons supermarket to name but a few. If you or anyone you know would like to be involved, please do get in touch. We would love to make Nantwich blue by creating a blue decorated window display, knitting forget-me-nots, making bunting or holding a coffee morning in the name of the campaign. There are no limits to what can be achieved during the week and all your ideas would be welcome. For more information on the free awareness workshops or, the big blue week in May 2020 please contact [communities@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communities@cheshireeast.gov.uk) or contact Lynn on [lynn@insafehandshealthcare.org.uk](mailto:lynn@insafehandshealthcare.org.uk)

## Nantwich Youth Forum

We would like to support the young people of Nantwich to feel better connected to their community. We are doing this by creating Nantwich Youth Forum. This is a small working group who are working hard to make a difference in the community, improve relationships, encourage youth engagement, aspirations and create safe and fun opportunities. This forum is in the early stages so there are opportunities for those interested in working to improve young people's opportunities, including residents and parents. The forum would also like to hear from young people who would like to shape this project, and share their views about what is needed in Nantwich, for the youth of today. For more information contact [deb.lindop@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:deb.lindop@cheshireeast.gov.uk) or go to our face book page.

## Canal Charity Launches Active Waterways Project for Cheshire's Over 55s.

Cheshire's canals and rivers are at the heart of a new 'Active Waterways' project by the Canal & River Trust charity, aimed at encouraging people over 55 to get active and healthy.

Supported by £222,000 of National Lottery funding from Sport England and in partnership with Active Cheshire, the new project is a key initiative within Sport England's plan 'Towards an Active Nation' and will make use





of the county's many beautiful waterways – part of the 2,000 miles of canals and rivers cared for by the Trust. Project leaders Anika Neill and Emma Hicks will be working hard over the next 21 months to recruit new Active Waterway volunteers to get involved with supporting and initiating activities in their own local areas across the county. All volunteer leaders will be offered a comprehensive training support programme. They will also be setting up a range of health and well-being events and groups in the six hub locations of Northwich, Ellesmere Port, Middlewich, Macclesfield, Congleton and Audlem. The project will also reach out to existing community groups to increase their activity levels. Sport England research shows that inactivity among people over 55 is responsible for just as many deaths as smoking. In Cheshire and Warrington just over 40 % of the population (c.370,000 people) are over 55 and of these 53% (nearly 200,000) do less than two and a half hours of gentle exercise per week. Active Cheshire research indicates the main reasons for inactivity are health (54%), work and family commitments (26%) and lack of interest (15%). Anika Neill, Active Waterways project manager with the Canal & River Trust, said: "This is a wonderful chance for us to provide new health and fitness opportunities for older people in Cheshire. We know our canals already offer great ways to enjoy the big outdoors for walkers, boaters, joggers, anglers, cyclists and paddle boarders. "We hope this project will reach people who may not be used to being active on a regular basis. Life truly is better by water and in Cheshire we have some of the most beautiful rural waterways in the country."

### Cheshire East Older Persons Forum

Cheshire East would like to establish and develop a Cheshire East Older People forum. The aim of the forum would be to inform and influence Cheshire East Strategies that affect older people. The forum will have an important role as a bridge and connector between older people, groups and organisations, and strategic partners. It will create strong links with Cheshire East Council and other strategic partners but will need to continue to build on these links and create other partnerships, to ensure that there will be a voice for change in Cheshire East.

The forum will be open to all older people living within Cheshire East and will meet regularly to:

- Discuss matters of concern to older people
- Share ideas that could have a positive benefit for peoples lives
- Develop ways to improve or change polices or services for older people

For more information contact [jill.stenton@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:jill.stenton@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

### Other News

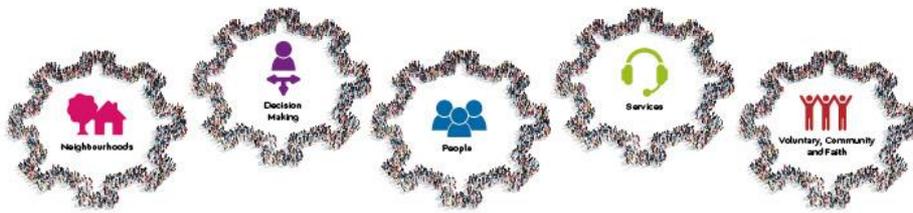
#### NHS care for the Armed Forces community, November 2019



The NHS is responsible for providing all hospital and most community services for serving personnel (except for mental health, general practice and rehabilitation services). The NHS also provides nearly all community, general practice and hospital services for the families of serving personnel, reservists and veterans. Included as part of this are the following dedicated services and initiatives to support the Armed Forces community:

- NHS mental health services for veterans
- The Veterans' Mental Health Complex Treatment Service (CTS) is for ex-forces who have military
- Veterans Trauma Network (VTN)
- Veterans Prosthetics Panel (VPP)
- Armed Forces personnel in transition: Integrated Personal Commissioning for Veterans Framework
- Personalised care for veterans with a long term physical, mental or neurological health condition or disability
- Veteran friendly GP practice accreditation
- The Veterans Covenant Healthcare Alliance (VCHA)

For further information, email [england.armedforceshealth@nhs.net](mailto:england.armedforceshealth@nhs.net) or visit [www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/military-healthcare/](http://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/military-healthcare/)



## Would you like to support others? Volunteer to become a TWISTA Connect Mentor?

Many young teenagers don't have the support that they need from home and friends in order to achieve what they want which encourages them to give up. You can give them this support by meeting once a week in a local school to help them through what they want. By helping the younger citizens of the area, you can help them to achieve the goals they want by guiding them along the way. This will help them to get more focus on the things they need and may even be able to start hobbies with your help to keep them busy after school, therefore, keeping away from trouble.

If you are interested then please complete an [application form](#)

## Consultations

### Cheshire East Community Governance Review - Part One

We are conducting a review of town and parish council governance arrangements across the Cheshire East Borough to ensure that such arrangements continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government.

At this stage the Council has undertaken some preliminary analysis of each of the town/ parish council wards within the borough. A small number of requests from parish councils to review their specific governance arrangements have also been received.

We would now like your views on how effective you feel the current governance arrangements are and if you feel changes, if any, are required and why. Once this stage of the review has been complete we will develop some draft proposals which will be the subject of a formal consultation at a later date.

- [Give your views on the Cheshire East Community Governance Review - Part One](#)
- [View more information on the Community Governance Review](#)

Please submit your consultation response by **5pm on the 31 January 2020**.

## Further Information

### Contact Us

If you would like more information on anything within this newsletter, please contact the team on 01270 685444 or email [communities@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communities@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

The latest news and events can be found by visiting [Cheshire East's Live Well site](#), [Cheshire East What's on Guide](#) and [Discover Cheshire](#) you can also add your own event to these sites.

Don't forget to use our [Connected Communities Webpages](#) for a wealth of information on the work our team are currently working on.

### Save the Date

- Connected To Community Navigation 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020

