



**Outcomes achieved**

**During**

**Quarter 1 2013/14**

## Homes

### **Provide more homes of the right type and in the right place**

**Submission of The Aligned Core Strategy** – this was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in June, following extensive public consultation. Developed through an innovative partnership with Broxtowe Borough and Nottingham City Councils, the Core Strategy will be the subject of a public hearing which is likely to be held in October.

**On-going support for first time buyers** - The first tranche of the Local Authority Mortgage scheme was successfully completed in May 2013. Working with our partner, Lloyds TSB, it supported 49 first time buyers in obtaining an affordable mortgage, contributing to the Council's Economic Development and Housing priorities. A second tranche of the scheme to support a further £1m of mortgage indemnities was successfully launched in June 2013.

## **Jobs**

### **Ensure local people are well prepared and able to compete for jobs**

**Apprenticeship success** - An Accountancy apprentice at Gedling Borough Council recently visited Westminster. Danny Flint, 19, who is nearing the end of his second year of three in his role attended an awards ceremony at the House of Lords along with 29 other apprentices.

He is studying for his AAT qualification with West Nottinghamshire College, and received the invite from the college in recognition of his success to date.

Danny, who works in budget management, said: "I never thought I would be sitting in the House of Lords. It's good to be recognised for what you do, but really I'm lucky enough to be in my position as an apprentice." Mandy Mayle from West Nottinghamshire College said: "This is a prestigious event that enables Vision West Nottinghamshire College to recognise the hard work our apprentices carry out.

**Supporting local people to improve skills** – the recent Employment and Skills meeting identified that 20 apprenticeship positions had been supported, 30 Recruit Local face to face appointments had been made. The group also identified that 20 apprenticeship vacancies have been created and 20 employers have signed up to support a learner on work experience.

## People

### Reduce anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime

**Reduced levels of crime** – the level of recorded crimes across Gedling Borough for quarter 1 is 6.1% less compared to the same period in 2012/13. Recorded incidents of ASB across the Borough has also shown a reduction of 32.7% compared to the same period in 2012/13.

**Zumba, Martial Arts and Photography for Young People in Newstead** - Earlier in the year the Council worked with Newstead Youth Centre and City Arts to provide some new activities for young people in Newstead. These included weekly Zumba and Martial Arts sessions and a 10 week Express Yourself arts programme based on photography. These have proven to be such a success with the young people that the Youth Centre has agreed to continue the sessions and include them as part of their on-going programme of activities.

### Improve Health and Wellbeing

**Community Covenant signed** - The Armed Forces have teamed up with Gedling Borough Council by signing a Community Covenant during April 2013. The covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a community and its local Armed Forces.

The covenant supports Armed Forces personnel by helping with healthcare, housing and employment, while they are serving and after they leave. It complements the Armed Forces Covenant, published by the Government in 2011 as a moral obligation between the nation, Government and Armed Forces. Lieutenant Colonel Kaine Price signed on behalf of the Armed Forces, the Royal Navy and Royal Naval Reserve.

He said: "By agreeing, via this covenant, to work with partners and local business communities as well as serving Armed Forces personnel, Gedling Borough Council is demonstrating a real commitment to improving the lives of Armed Forces Personnel."

**Arnold Carnival success** - the event took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June and was a resounding success, with estimated attendance figures of 28,000 people throughout the weekend. A new Leisure and Culture promotional area adjacent to the Beer Tent worked very well in engaging children, young people and their families in activities and raising the profile of Gedling's fitness and sporting facilities around the borough. The community centres team were also out and about promoting the centres.

The stage programme was extremely well received with full audiences for all performances which ranged from local primary schools to internationally recognised acts like 'The Beautiful Sound' and 'Illegal Eagles'. The event continues to provide a superb showcase opportunity for local talent and this was particularly in evidence with the range and quality of performances from young people.

The Play Forum provided a free play area in the large marquee with support from Debz4coffee who offered a range of activities for children with Special Educational Needs. The craft tent, charities, dog show, fairground rides and young people's activities were as popular as ever. The look of the site was improved with new flags in vibrant colours designed to brand the event definitively as Gedling Borough Council.

**Armed Forces Day Event** - Year 5 children from Good Shepherd School performed "We'd like to remind you" to a packed audience in the Council Chamber on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June as an addition to this year's Flag Raising Ceremony to celebrate Armed Forces Day coming to

Nottingham. The piece was then performed again to an audience of over 200 people at the Armed Forces Day event on the Bandstand Stage at the Victoria Embankment on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June and was listed in the official programme. Gedling Borough Council are the only Nottinghamshire Local Authority who have contributed a specially commissioned performance to the event.

**Art at the HeART** - The art sessions for older people at Gedling Homes' St Andrews House have been running as part of our campaign to reduce loneliness and social isolation amongst older people in Gedling. The residents have been doing silk painting, linking in with a tea party theme, making banners and bunting and doing some reminiscence. The success of this pilot project between Arts Development and Gedling Homes has been recognised at most recent Nottinghamshire Health and Well-being Board meeting.

**Flying Birds in Civic Centre** An official unveiling of sculptures produced by young people working on the Express Yourself emotional health and well-being arts programme took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. The sculptures installed in the Civic Centre Reception are inspired by bird life in Arnot Hill Park and will become part of an arts trail for the Park which will be launch later this year. Young people are referred on to the programme to use arts to enhance their emotional health and wellbeing. Participants work with professional artists ensuring that high quality arts experiences are explored and demonstrated in the art work that is produced and shared with the local community.

**Healthy Futures** - The Council has funded the Healthy Futures pilot with Netherfield Primary School which ran from April to July with the aim to encourage families to enjoy healthier lifestyles. The programme where every member of a family can learn about healthy eating and the benefits and opportunities of increased exercise has been run in partnership between the GBC Exercise Promotion team, Nottingham Forest in the Community and NHS County Health Partnerships. Families took part in practical cooking and exercise sessions, an introduction to Carlton Forum's fitness suite and a celebration event at Nottingham Forest's City Ground.

Evaluation has identified that some of children have gained more confidence to socially bond and interact with others during the course of the programme. Families also reported an increase in the amount of medium to vigorous physical activity they participate in by the end of the programme. The evaluation will be used to develop a model for a healthy lifestyle programme in local primary schools.

**Ley Street Choir** The Council's has worked with Ley Street Day Centre in Netherfield to establish a choir for local adults with learning disabilities. The initial 6 weeks programme funded by the Council has proved to be a great success, as the adults worked with a singing artist to learn breathing exercises and practice songs. The Council is now supporting them to rehearse their very own rap song with lyrics inspired by them to be performed on 25<sup>th</sup> July at Richard Herrod Centre. This will be part of an event to raise the awareness amongst local GPs of the needs of adults with learning disabilities. The project will be used to assess the physical and emotional benefits singing can bring to the well-being of those attending the Day Centre. Research shows the great benefits singing can bring to respiratory system.

### **Adult Positive Moves**

Our GP exercise referral programme has been re-designing what it offers to its participants by introducing nutrition and weight management to the exercise opportunities on offer. As part of the nutrition programme one participant lost nearly 2 stone in 6 weeks.

**Go For It! Sports Camps for Young People with Disabilities** The Council has secured £9, 536 of Nottinghamshire County Council Short Breaks Funding to deliver these camps this year. The programme has developed in response to a lack of holiday activities for children with disabilities in Gedling and the need for respite time for parents and carers.

57 places were taken up on the first two Go For It! camps during Easter and Half-term with the young people enjoying activities such as boccia, kwik cricket, dodgeball, sitting volleyball, tag, hockey and a variety of fun warm up games. Days are also scheduled throughout the summer holidays. Feedback from parents and coaches has been very positive and children are growing in confidence with each session they attend.

Feedback from a coach – “Wow, what an end to the camp! 2 kids crying because it finished, parents couldn't thank us enough for a perfect week. Well done! A brilliant project and well worth the funding.”

### **Reduce poverty and disadvantage**

**Supporting Priority Areas** - Leisure and Culture have put in place targeted activities for children and young people being delivered across Borough, but mostly targeting Newstead and Netherfield. Partners are Supporting Families, Family Intervention Project, Gedling Homes, Youth Service, Netherfield Primary School, Newstead Primary School, YMCA, Notts County Football in the Community and Nottingham Forest Football in the Community.

## **Performance**

### **Mitigate the impact of budget reductions by maximising efficiency and effectiveness**

**Value for Money Payroll Service** – Mansfield District Council recently asked other authorities for information regarding their payroll services and have provided the results to those taking part. The information shows that Gedling Borough Council's cost per employee equivalent is the second lowest out of the 11 authorities responding, and significantly lower than the average.

## Place

### Reduce the volume of waste generated

**Volume of waste reduced** - Residents have reduced the amount of waste thrown away in their black bins by another 5kg per household last year. In the past 10 years it has reduced the amount of waste thrown away per year by a whopping 320kg! Since the kerbside battery collection started in December the Council has collected over three tonnes of batteries. As well as this, our small electrical banks have collected over six tonnes since we put them in last May.

### Provide an attractive local environment that local people can enjoy and appreciate

**New Park in Carlton Hill** - Albert Avenue, off Carlton Hill in Carlton, has a new park helped designed by schoolchildren in the area, thanks to a project funded by Gedling Homes. The play area was finished at the end of March when the children visited the new park to see their ideas come to life.

Schools involved in the design of the new park were Standhill Infants, Porchester Juniors, Carlton Hill Playgroup and Lowater Street play and pre-school groups. They worked with the Council's Parks Development team and tree sculptor Simon Kent to help refurbish the park, which will provide a safe and stimulating environment for children for years to come.

**Arnot Hill Mural** - Teenagers in the borough have designed and painted a bridge at Arnold's Arnot Hill Park with a colourful, woodland-inspired mural that brightens up the area and is a unique piece of artwork in itself.

The mural is part of a Nature Trail project for the park and reflects the woodland surroundings with paintings of leaves, berries and owls. It was designed by young people working with local artist Anthony Donnelly from Urban Canvas, a group that delivers creative projects across the UK. The mural was funded by Nottinghamshire County Council's Local Improvement Scheme.

**Netherfield market** - Netherfield holds a monthly food and drink market showcasing a range of locally produced food and drink as well as offerings from further afield. It takes place on the third Saturday of every month and is part of The Council's improvement plans for the area.

### Reduce the Council's and Borough's energy usage

**Improving driving standards for Council Staff** - Drivers of council vans have taken part in a special one-off training course to drive better, help improve fuel efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint. The simple techniques taught to drivers on the course can reduce fuel consumption by up to 15% and include tips on reducing speed, using gears more efficiently and planning journeys better.

**Boiler Give Away** – Residents have benefited from a free supply and installation of new boilers and central heating in their homes as part of the Gedling Boiler Giveaway. The Council was awarded a fuel poverty grant from the Department for Energy and Climate Change to help eligible residents who had old G-rated boilers get new, more efficient A-rated boilers. There was a great response to the scheme - one of the recipients of a new boiler was Mr Pearson from Daybrook. He applied after hearing about the scheme at his



local Neighbourhood Watch meeting, and says, "I'm currently unemployed and my health isn't great, so there was no way I could have afforded to get a new boiler. With the recent cold weather, I was very worried that my old boiler was going to go pack up any day, and I wouldn't have been able to get a replacement. The new boiler was installed quickly and efficiently, the council has been great, and I'm really pleased with my new boiler." Mr Pearson was one of the 78 householders in the borough who benefited from the scheme.