

Cllr Maggie Sutton, Portfolio Holder for Communities

Report to Full Council – 18 December 2025

Communities Team

Manager: Carla Claydon

Officers: Angie Greneski (AG), Kerry Vinton (KV), Fleur Brookes (FB), Sue Hayden (SH), John Starr (JS) Tanveer Dhillon (TD)

Youth projects

The second Youth Partnerships meeting taking place on the 15th December. This multi-agency meeting brings statutory and voluntary organisations together to explore where they can collaborate on youth provisions, identify local needs and gaps, and opportunities.

Uttlesford Youth Voices commenced in Dunmow on the 11th November, but take-up has been slow.

It is an opportunity for children to talk about the issues they are facing and work together on a project to make a difference. We are liaising with schools and have visited youth clubs across the district to recruit more members.



School engagement

We are working closely with secondary schools from across the district at the ASB Forum (youth) and John and Cllr Sutton are speaking to schools about better engagement and working more closely with together.

We have met with representatives Saffron Walden High School, Forest Hill School and Newport School to talk about anti-social behaviour, upcoming projects and any concerns.

Health and Wellbeing Board (SH)

The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) met on the 30th of October to review the progress of the nine projects it has funded against the set objectives.

The HWB has been engaging with staff this year, offering health checks, and looking to introduce wellbeing champions to support the workforce.

The HWB working groups, and data from ECC have identified a number of priorities for this year and are direct funding projects to meet these objectives in January 2026.

Ukrainian update Lead Officer (SH)

Projects are going well. The group is meeting every month to review current projects and identify challenges in delivery.

We are in regular contact with the service providers and those eligible for the scheme and our overseas arrivals residents to ensure that we are supporting them.

Community Protection (AS)

The one-off grants community have recently closed, and the successful applicants have been informed.

We are in the process of awarding the grants and will be monitoring them as per our grants procedures.

The Community Awards took place on the 27th November where over 30 awards were given to members of the local community for their voluntary contribution. Many awards were given for lifetime achievements, and some given to young members of the community who are inspiring others.

The Community Safety Partnership – Lead Officer AG

Three secondary schools have signed up to taking part in the Reality Roadshows in the spring and it is hoped that more schools will come on board.

Safer Streets multi-agency engagements are taking place throughout November to obtain feedback from the residents of Dunmow. To date, we have received over 190 responses from residents, and this feedback will be used to direct funding and allocate resources.



Following the feedback from scrutiny Communities Team and providing updates to shared online, in the local newspaper, via Members bulletins, at Cabinet, and ICB. A number of

Cllr's are not regularly reading the members bulletins, and this has been highlighted to the Monitoring Officer.

Safeguarding update – Lead Officer FB

Safeguarding training attendance KPI data has been submitted to the relevant department and is being monitored by SMT.

The themes emerging from safeguarding concerns raised include dementia, suicide and mental health issues. We continue to support tenants alongside the housing team.

Fleur and Carla Claydon continue to visit all the team meetings across the Council to talk to teams about safeguarding, domestic abuse procedure and answer any questions.

Equalities and Inclusion (KV)

The next EDI Steering Group Meeting is taking place in January.

The board continue to work closely with the Stonewall charity, who recently reviewed and provided feedback on both UDC's Domestic Abuse and ASB Policy, from an LGBTQIA+ perspective which was positive.

The updated EDI and Hate Crime Policy are going to Cabinet in January for review and approval.

Domestic Abuse (FB)

The J9 training is continuing across the district. It is being delivered by Alfa Vesta and facilitated by the Police and Council. We recently saw Newport Pharmacy obtain accreditation, and they are the first Pharmacy to do this in Essex.

The 16 Days of Activism is a global movement organised by UN Women, running from 25 November to 10 December, to raise awareness and take action to end violence against women and girls.



The Communities Team wore orange to work on the 26th November to raise awareness and show their support for the [16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence](#) and 'Orange the World'.

The colour orange is used as a symbol of hope, optimism and a future free from violence.

[#16DaysOfActivism](#) [#EndGenderBasedViolence](#) [#NoExcuse](#) [#UNiTE](#)

Anti-social behaviour – Lead Officer TD

Tanveer has successfully implemented the ASB Forums (Youth and Adult) and he is working closely with John to set up the Youth Partnerships Group and the Youth Voice Group.

On the 27th November we visited a number of areas in Takeley with the Police, and spoke with the town council, regarding graffiti and concerns around youth ASB and continue to work closely with them to find a resolution.

ASB cases continue to be busy, 100 new cases since April. Resident satisfaction continues to be high, with an average of over 90% satisfied, which far exceeds the industry average of 65%.