

STRONGER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

ALL AGE EARLY HELP ANNUAL PLAN
SEPTEMBER 2019 - AUGUST 2020



STRONGER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

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1. FOREWORD

The All Age Early Help Strategy (2017-2020) for Barnsley identifies a series of priorities to achieve the best outcomes for individuals, families and communities within the borough.

This is our second annual plan which tells you about our next set of commitments for the period between August 2019 and July 2020. We have delivered several projects in the last period, some of which are described through case studies in this plan. To ensure that we deliver our priorities, we have developed this plan with our key partners.

To help us jointly deliver on our actions, we will monitor progress through the Stronger Communities Partnership Board, where key partners come together to support each other. There continues to be pressure on our resources and demand for specialist services, so we will be working together and sharing our resources to ensure people in our communities get the right support, at the right time, in the right place to tackle problems early. Early help minimises the risk of issues becoming severe and entrenched. It ensures that people are supported to achieve their full potential and lead fulfilling and rewarding lives.

The Barnsley Stronger Communities Partnership responds to the Health and Wellbeing Board's Strategy. It does this by bringing together a range of public, private, voluntary, community and social enterprise partners to maximise capacity and build the resilience of individuals, families and communities. It also oversees the 'All Age Early Help' strategy and promotes collective ownership and accountability for the delivery of the vision and priorities. The Partnership provides a solid foundation to deliver this strategy.

The 'All Age Early Help' strategy outlines our strategic intentions and approach, to ensure early help is understood, accessible and firmly embedded within the working practices of all agencies; promoting lifetime and whole-family planning to deliver effective early help in Barnsley.

We are pleased to produce our second annual plan, which will help us track our achievements against the strategy and where required challenge our performance and delivery. We will review our plan annually to ensure that we reflect changing circumstances and local needs of the borough. We look forward to working together to ensure that local people and communities can reach their full potential and that together, we can achieve a brighter future and a better Barnsley.



Councillor Jenny Platts
Cabinet Member



Councillor Christopher Lamb
Chair of the Partnership

2. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT



The Barnsley Stronger Communities Partnership is a multi-agency board that contributes towards the Health and Wellbeing Board's vision, helping the people of Barnsley to:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Be an active citizen
- Earn a good living

It recognises that access to well-timed support and intervention in a person's or family's life can lead to resilience, confidence and achievements in other aspects of their life. The Partnership provides a platform for joint working between local partner organisations, voluntary and community sector. Its objective is to promote shared ownership in helping people to achieve their potential, increase their resilience and wellbeing of the community.

This partnership's annual plan aligns with key areas highlighted by service users, carers and the Barnsley public. These have been recorded through various levels of engagements and consultations which are reflected within key publications, in particular, the 'Public Health Annual Report (2017)', 'Health and Wellbeing strategy (2017-2019)', Public Health Strategy 2018-2012 and Barnsley carers' strategy (2017-2020).

3. THE PARTNERSHIP'S AMBITION AND COMMITMENT

Our ambition for the Stronger Community Partnership is detailed in the 'All Age Early Help strategy (2017-2020)'. Our vision for a stronger community is:

“Individuals and families are healthy, resilient and have the confidence and skills to thrive and achieve their full potential so that collectively our communities achieve the best possible outcomes for themselves, their families and each other.”



The strategic vision is to enable access to help, in a way that is timely, appropriate and person-centred. This approach promotes early intervention and prevention. No single agency can deliver this in isolation or can be held responsible for supporting people with multiple needs.

Our partnership developed an approach which guides all partner members to achieve a shared vision:

- **Working together locally in a connected way**

Our vision is shared by all partner agencies who are working to improve the health and well-being of our community. Plans and strategies of partners complement each other's efforts and actions for the benefit of the service user.

The new 'Integrated Care Outcomes Framework', a developing plan for Health and Council to support communities is a more joined up and integral part of our partnership work. A set of outcomes contained within the 'Integrated Care outcomes Framework' have been developed that complements all our partners' primary objectives. Integrated Care will ensure a more cohesive and seamless approach and delivery of support.

Principles adopted are:

- Addressing the route cause and building on the strength of the person, families and communities.
- Enabling access to holistic support across the system.
- Making early help everyone's responsibility.
- Wraparound transitional support.
- Accessible early help with support planning across the life journey.

4. A PROACTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR RESIDENTS

We will provide better-connected services that engage with our communities and places our residents at the heart of what we do. We encourage residents to do as much as is reasonable and safe for them, their families and communities, to be independent and enjoy life.

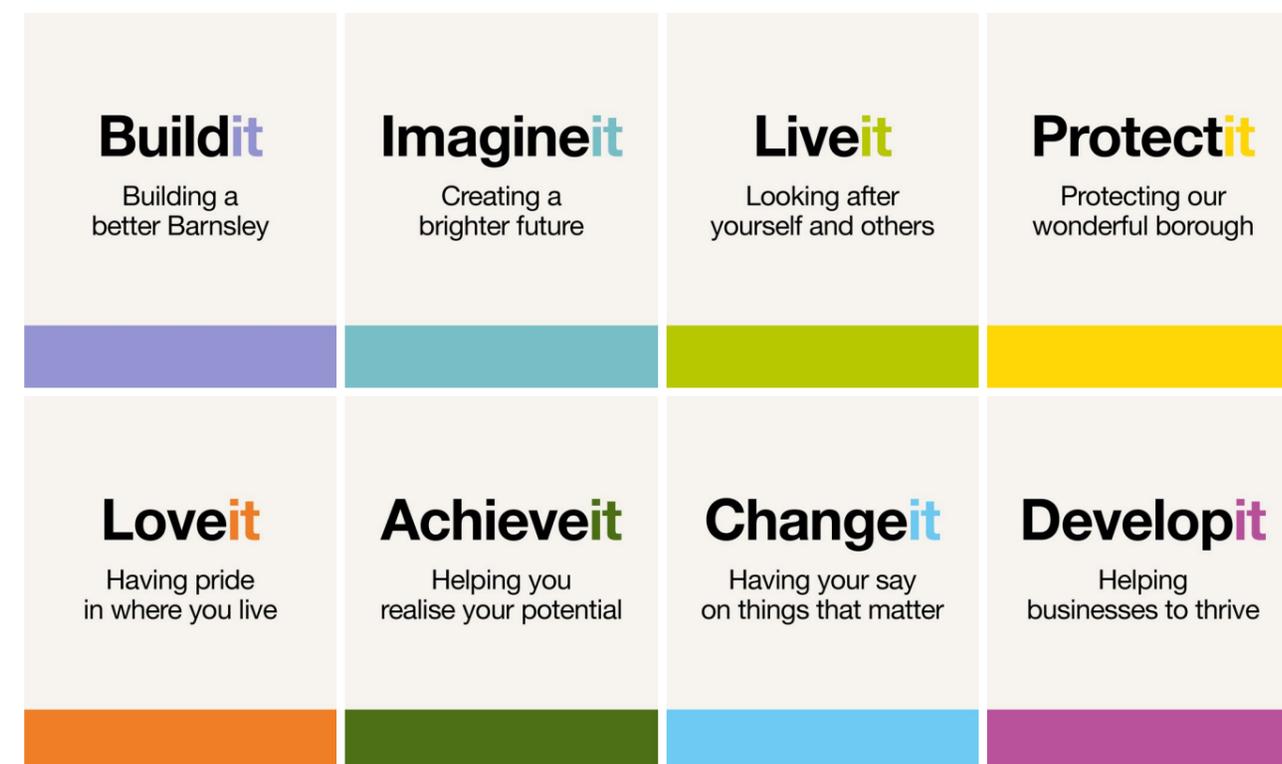
Town Spirit is a new way of connecting with our communities. We will continue supporting the most vulnerable in society by focusing our resources on helping people who are most in need. By helping each other, we can achieve much more and make Barnsley a better place to live and work.

We will work with the community and our partners to:

- Make Barnsley a cleaner, safer, more vibrant and welcoming place.
- Raise people's aspirations, and create a healthier, safer and better-educated population.
- Make sure everyone can get access to the support they need at the earliest possible stage, and enable them to keep their own and their family's health at its best.
- Make our borough a better place for everyone. We want to make Barnsley a place where people love to live and work, and where they can see a brighter future for themselves and their families.

Reflecting our Town Spirit themes 'Love it' and 'Achieve it', 'Live it', 'imagine it', and 'Own It'.

For more information on Town Spirit visit barnsley.gov.uk/town-spirit



5. OUR PRIORITIES

Our three main priorities are:

- a) To put in place the right help, in the right place at the right time.
- b) To develop strong partnership working and strong leadership.
- c) To empower people and communities to build capacity and resilience, so they can do more for themselves.

Last year these priorities were delivered through our three multi-agency delivery groups:

1. Early Help Adults.
2. Early Help Children.
3. Anti-poverty.

A lead officer supports each delivery group, and a collective approach is adopted by the group to deliver against the shared priorities within their area of focus.



6. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN 2018/19 - EARLY HELP ADULTS DELIVERY GROUP

6.1 Last year we said we would: Put in place the right help, in the right place at the right time by:

- Preventing delayed hospital discharge through a pilot of a hospital discharge service.
- Ensuring that carers can access the right support at the right time through our newly commissioned service.
- Contributing towards the reduction in the incidences of preventable sight loss.
- Developing a new model for assistive living.
- Supporting people and their carers to live well with dementia.
- Supporting and helping vulnerable groups to access, secure and sustain employment and improve their overall health and well-being.
- Providing accessible and clear universal information and advice, which supports residents and communities to access timely early help.

We have:

6.1.1 Prevented delayed hospital discharge through a pilot 'hospital discharge service'

We now have a new hospital discharge service, which helps people leave the hospital and receive the right support at home. Caseworkers are based at the hospital and in the community to ensure people are being discharged in a timely way. This is followed with a home visit where assistance is provided with accessing further support. The service is there to complement support from social care and is designed to ensure that people can return to a warm and safe home. This is run by the Council's 'Able' team.

6.1.2 Barnsley Carers Service: This service makes sure that carers can access the right support at the right time through our newly commissioned service.



'Barnsley Carers Service' is a new, free to access service to support unpaid carers. They provide people with information, advice, befriending, education, planning for emergencies and much more. Since 1 August 2018, over 500 carers have been supported by the service, with 123 carers receiving small grant payments to help them to undertake activities or short breaks, giving them relief from their caring responsibilities.



6.1.3 Contributed towards the reduction in the incidences of preventable sight loss by:

- a) Re-establishing our Barnsley Vision Strategy group and review its membership to ensure it represents all ages.
- b) Raising awareness through health promotion and screening events across the borough during eye health week (September 24 -30) of last year. Evaluation of the work is showing some behaviour changes.
- c) Understanding needs and gaps in sight loss and making twenty recommendations for improvements. These actions will be reflected in our Barnsley Vision Strategy Action Plan.
- d) Responding to the Barnsley Healthwatch report on Barnsley blind and partially sighted services. This will result in the group planning further engagement work with adults, children and young people in 2019. The consultation will take place between April – July 2019, and this will inform the refresh of the Barnsley Vision Strategy Action Plan.

6.1.4 Developed a new model for assistive living:

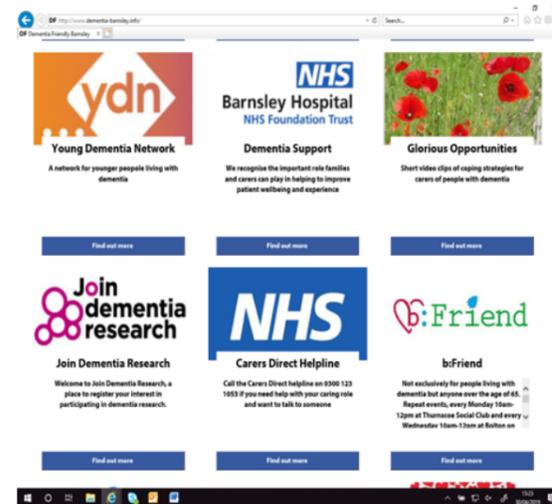
During 2017/18, we reviewed services such as assistive technology including installation, small adaptations, repairs and call handling. A report was produced which concluded that current services were confusing to access, expensive to provide and often failed to respond to customer needs in a timely and effective way. We have subsequently carried out a full-scale re-design. We have developed new branding for the service, called 'Able', which is being delivered by the council.

able.

6.1.5 Supported people and their carers to live well with dementia:

Our Multi-Agency Dementia Group has fully implemented the Barnsley Dementia Web page dementia-barnsley.info in response to the national dementia support and carer's action plan. Since its launch in May 2018 the web page has seen over 6000 new people interacting with the page. This amounts to 500 new hits per month. There have been 231 events posted that people can have information about and attend.

Approximately 40 people (carers and those with dementia) helped to develop an easy to use support plan for people being diagnosed with a dementia. This support plan will enable a person with dementia to express how they wish to be supported. It will also help their carers' and family doctor to understand their needs in the future better.



6.1.6 Supported and helped vulnerable groups to access secure and sustained employment and improve their overall health and well-being.

We have used European funding to implement a significant programme of employment support for vulnerable groups. We continue to help people increase their employability and access employment through our Employer Promise programme. This program focusses on three areas which are 'Getting Ready for Work', 'Getting Into Work' and 'Getting On (and Staying In) Work'.



The **Pathways to Success** provides personalised support for people with complex needs who are not ready to take up employment. Support is accessed through Adult Skills, Community Learning and in partnership with specialist support providers, with a dedicated adviser in Employment and Volunteering through a range of venues in the community.

Pathways to Progression is a sister project to support young people who are either not in education, employment or training (NEET), or who are at risk of becoming NEET. The adult strand supports adults who are unemployed or experiencing difficulties getting into employment.

The **Supported Employment Programme** is a project that provides seventeen supported, paid employment posts across the local authority for adults with lifelong learning difficulty or disability. Employment last for up to a year, during which time individuals develop their confidence and skills. Individuals receive intensive support and mentoring both before and during their placement.

Working Win supports people with mild to moderate mental and physical health issues to access or retain employment.

We have created a dedicated provision, in partnership with Northern College, to support the most disadvantaged individuals to begin their journey back into employment. The service concentrates on employment abilities, and this has been successful, particularly with people who have experienced domestic abuse. Nineteen people have attended the course with twelve people going on to apply for other courses.

CASE STUDY

Northern College – employment abilities

The client is from Ghana. When she arrived in the UK she didn't know anyone, but her husband. Over many years she suffered domestic abuse, and with two children, she found taking action against her husband hard to do. Around eight years later, she saw an advert for the Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDAS) and plucked up the courage to attend a group session. With the help of IDAS and Northern College, her life is turning around. At first, the language barrier was an issue, but she had a good basic understanding of English from Ghana and developed her skills quickly. She now speaks excellent English. Her husband had burnt her educational certificates, which included a marketing degree, which she hasn't been able to replace. Initially, a lack of close friends and family made life very difficult.

As a result of the support from IDAS and attendance on the employment competency program, our client has achieved the following:

- She has a part-time job as a key worker for children with special needs.
- She is attending a Peer Mentoring course at Northern College.
- She has planned five years of education to provide herself and her family with a bright future. The starting point is Maths and English course at Northern College, which prepared her for GCSE's.
- She is starting a course that will help her become a volunteer at IDAS.
- She has built and continues to build a network of friends which are enriching her life.

6.1.7 Provided accessible and understandable universal information and advice, which supports residents and communities to access timely early help.



Live Well Barnsley is a place where you can find information about help and support services within the borough. The site contains information and contact details about all types of services and activities that can help you look after yourself, stay independent and get involved in your community. To further improve its accessibility, we are taking steps to rebuild the website to make it easier to use.

6.2 Last year we said we would: Develop strong partnership working and leadership through:

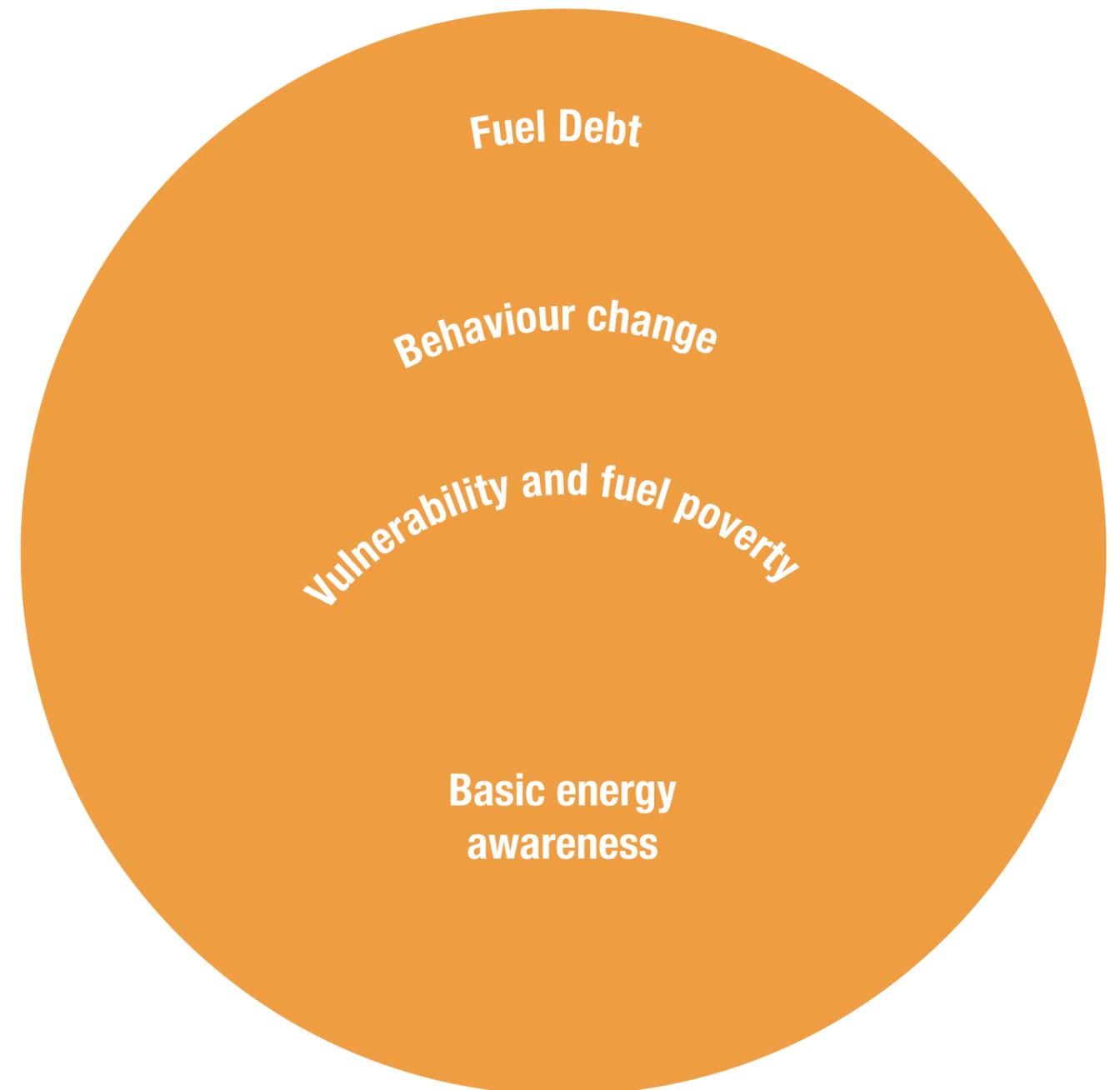
- Ensuring housing and health is embedded in all relevant health and social care referral pathways.
- Continue to increase the uptake and use of social prescribing. Evaluate where people are referred to early help services.
- Strengthen our approach to service users and carers' engagement.

We have:

6.2.1 Ensured that housing and health is embedded in all relevant health and social care referral pathways by:

a) Including, guidance about housing tenancies and the best way to keep your home warm within the social care guidance for staff. While also incorporating these options within new social care referral pathways. This will ensure that health and social care staff provide consistent messages about preventing cold homes and high fuel bills. This, in turn, will impact positively on individuals' health and help the community to become more energy-efficient and reduce expensive fuel bills.

167 health and social care staff trained on fuel poverty. Training included:



b) Securing money from the National Warm Homes Fund and commissioning a single point of access for housing and health, “Warm Homes service” as part of broader Able service. In addition our North Area Council has funded a new service called Warm Homes, Warm Connections, run by DIAL Barnsley. In the short time it has been operating it has carried out:

North Area Council

Darton East, Darton West, Old Town, St Helens



- 80 home visits undertaken by social inclusion workers /volunteers.
- 15 individual needs assessments.
- 23 home energy assessments.
- 1 launch and energy awareness event.
- 1 energy switch event in the local community.
- 3 new volunteers recruited and trained.

6.2.2 Continued to increase the uptake and use of social prescribing:



When you're not feeling well you can go to your doctor, and they'll prescribe you medicine or treatment, but what if you're not physically unwell? That's where social prescribing comes in.

My Best Life is a social prescribing service with advisors who will work with you for up to 12 weeks, to put together your action plan that can help with a range of things, including:

- Improve mental wellbeing.
- Manage your physical health and symptoms.
- Lead a healthier lifestyle.
- Improve your home environment.
- Get involved in your local community.
- Maximise your income and access benefits.
- Find work, training and volunteering opportunities.

The impact of Social Prescribing service in Barnsley:

29% reduction in GP appointments

My best life
2289 referrals

90% more aware of services in the community

73% customers feel better supported to manage their health

- The team continues to engage with a range of local organisations and community groups to connect people to the appropriate support and services to meet their needs.
- The service is supporting people with complex needs and is helping people to avoid entering a crisis or indeed moving out of such situations.
- People are benefiting from the service and plans are being discussed to increase capacity in Barnsley.

6.2.3 Strengthen our approach to service users and carers' engagement by:

- Enabling service user groups to become more independent as a group in 2019/20. Support to help engagement was provided through a grant scheme. Specific requirements were set for each group on how they should engage with local commissioners as part of a forward plan. This is a vital part of our efforts to increase the capacity and expertise in the community; driven by service users.
- Understanding 'Peer Support' groups across Barnsley. The current workaround integration has enabled us to explore this area further through 'Community Researchers', a project that will continue in 2019/20.
- Working more closely with the equalities team and their forums to understand what effective engagement looks like. A report is being developed to help inform the evolving picture of improved engagement across the borough.

6.3 Last year we said we would: Empower people and communities to build capacity and resilience, so they can to do more for themselves by:

- Maximising investment and funding opportunities for the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE).
- Increasing the number of social enterprises in Barnsley.
- Reviewing our compact arrangements.
- Supporting the voluntary sector in accessing resources and working in partnership.
- Increasing funding to the voluntary sector.
- Strengthening our approach to service user and carer engagement.
- Support the implementation of the Age-Friendly Action Plan.

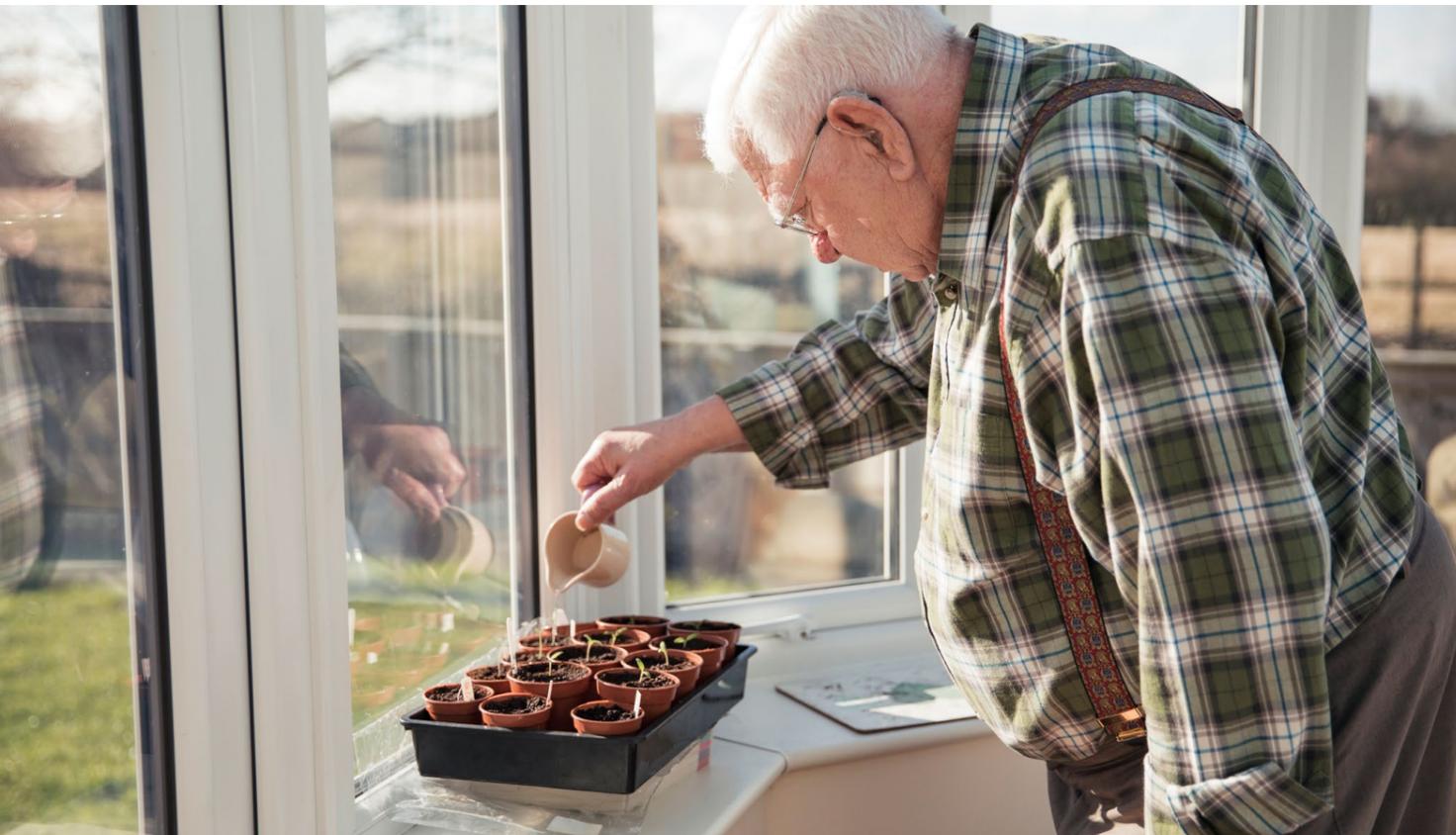
We have:

6.3.1 Maximised investment and funding opportunities for the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) by:

- Supporting the launch and funding of Barnsley CVS. A new infrastructure organisation to provide help and advice to the voluntary and community sector.
- Having discussions between commissioners including the voluntary/community sector about making commissioning processes more accessible.
- Supporting community groups and organisations to raise £66,000 this year through Crowdfunder.

SYFAB

South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau (SYFAB) has worked in Barnsley to help, community and voluntary groups find funding for their activities. As a result of this funding advice, £316,000 has been raised by groups for volunteering and community activities.



6.3.2 Supported the implementation of the Age Friendly Action Plan by:

- a) Supporting an event “Love Later Life” involving 250 older people; showcasing the contribution of older people in our town and positive images of older people and ageing, to counteract negative images in media.
- b) Reaching older people including those who are digitally excluded with diverse information including ‘how to access local groups and activities’, ‘where public toilets are in the town centre’ and ‘how to access public transport information’. We have used a variety of media including Dearne FM, posters in shop windows, area magazines, events, bus passes, leaflets and the ‘Love Later Life’ booklet. We have also worked with the ‘Live Well Barnsley’ to promote the accessibility of venues.
- c) Working with partners in public transport to make journeys safer. We have publicised ‘Passenger Assistance Cards’ and made them available to people who are not online. We have been out with partners on the streets of Barnsley distributing cards to people who need them. We have checked the level of accidents due to falls on public transport and partners have brought in a ‘Customer Care Code’ to ensure that drivers are aware of their responsibilities to help vulnerable people to get safely seated before setting off. We have publicised the ‘Traveline’ number for older people who can’t get online to check bus times.
- d) Making sure the perspective of older people is considered in terms of plans for the new town centre and Principal Towns; for example, by having a representative on disability audit visits. We have facilitated older people in being involved in the design of the Barnsley Council Guide to older people’s services.
- e) The Age-Friendly Action Plan is ongoing, and there are some significant issues that are being addressed through this plan, including the review of how we support people to live independently which has resulted in a number of services coming together to become, more efficient, address waiting lists and fill gaps.

7. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN 2019-19 - EARLY HELP CHILDREN DELIVERY GROUP

7.1 Last year we said we would:

- Put in place a comprehensive, direct offer of early help to children, young people and families to address, identified needs leading to an improved outcome.
- Ensure that children, young people and families receive continued support; which includes step down to early help and step up to social care to meet their changing needs.
- Increase the number of children, young people and their families supported early to ensure problems do not escalate.
- Ensure that children are ready for school and families are supported at the earliest opportunity, including identifying and responding to need.

We have:

7.1.1 Developed strong partnership working and leadership by:

- a) Ensuring that children and young people experience timely and effective multi-agency help and protection.
- b) Ensuring that multi-agency early help is based on a risk-based assessment, authoritative practice, planning and review which secure change.
- c) Delivering a comprehensive parenting pathway for families with children pre-birth to 19 years old from early through to specialist support.
- d) Embedding a strong step down to early help services for families to support a successful transition from Children’s Social Care.
- e) Developing a new approach to prevent teenage pregnancy.

7.1.2 Empowered people and communities to build capacity and resilience, so they can do more for themselves by:

- a) Increasing the range of agencies that can take the lead on providing early help to families.
- b) Supporting more young people and their families to build emotional resilience and improve mental health through further expansion of the Thrive Programme.

Last year we:

Worked in partnership with a range of agencies to offer early help assessments to children and families

3000 children and their families are benefiting from an early help assessments plans

709 Early Help Assessments were completed by Schools and 569 by Family Centres

There are consistently low levels of re-referrals for early help suggesting that families are becoming more resilient following intervention and support. Due to the small number, there is a full audit of each re-referral to ensure learning from re-referrals is shared across the partnership.

We are seeing a reduction in the number of people needing to access specialist services, which included young people entering the criminal justice system and statutory interventions from Children's Social Care.

Early Help has been externally validated in the Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services in October 2018, which found early help to be effective alongside good step up and step down arrangements with Children's Social Care.



Young people and families are being provided with support which is tailored to their needs through the network of 'Family Centres' and 'I know I can' centres. Support is also extended to those families whose requirements are over and above those provided through universal services. This can be both in groups and on a one to one basis at venues most appropriate for them.

Providing early support is essential to long term success and impact. In January 2019, we increased our number of early help assessments for children aged 0-5 years. Early year's services in Barnsley have been recognised by Ofsted (Office for standards in education) amongst the best in the country and consistently being rated as 'good and outstanding provision'. There is universal take up for three and four year's olds, early education. There has been year on year improvement of results at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile.

7.1.3 Tackled the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences:

We have commissioned a programme of workforce development to enable our family support workers to increase their knowledge, understanding and skills around adverse childhood experiences and trauma-informed approaches. We have secured funding from the Department of Work and Pensions, which will provide training across the children, young people and adults' workforce to increase awareness, knowledge and skills in reducing parental conflict. We have secured funding from the Department of Work and Pensions which will provide training in both the children's and adult's workforce to increase awareness, knowledge and skills in 'Reducing parental conflict'.



Parenting Pathway

We have widened our parenting pathway working in partnership with other agencies such as the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). We have increased the range of parenting programmes delivered through our family centres, investing more resources to offer parenting programmes for the treatment of conduct disorders, including Webster Stratton -Incredible Years and Family Links - Talking Teens.

The Webster Stratton: Incredible Years Programme is a ten week (2 hours per week) programme for parents/carers of children aged three to eleven years. Webster Stratton focuses on encouraging strong relationships through play, praise, positive attention, and setting appropriate boundaries. The programme gives parents and carers new ideas and strategies for dealing with children's behaviour – both the everyday issues and challenges which all parents and carers face and more serious behavioural issues.

Webster Stratton Incredible Years Parent Programme Participant Feedback



"I was feeling very down, depressed and couldn't see a way out."

"All we ever seemed to do was fight, shout, argue and be unhappy."

"I thought I was a rubbish parent as nothing I did seemed to make a difference."

"I was so near to giving up and walking out on my family."

"I felt very frustrated, stressed out and angry with my child."



"I was very nervous and wondered if the course would work."

"Each week things were explained, we used video, group discussions and even role play."

"It was easy to understand and make you think."

"The course was fun, we felt at ease and it really helped every week."

"The course has given me the tools to be able to cope better."



"Thank you for everything you have done for me."

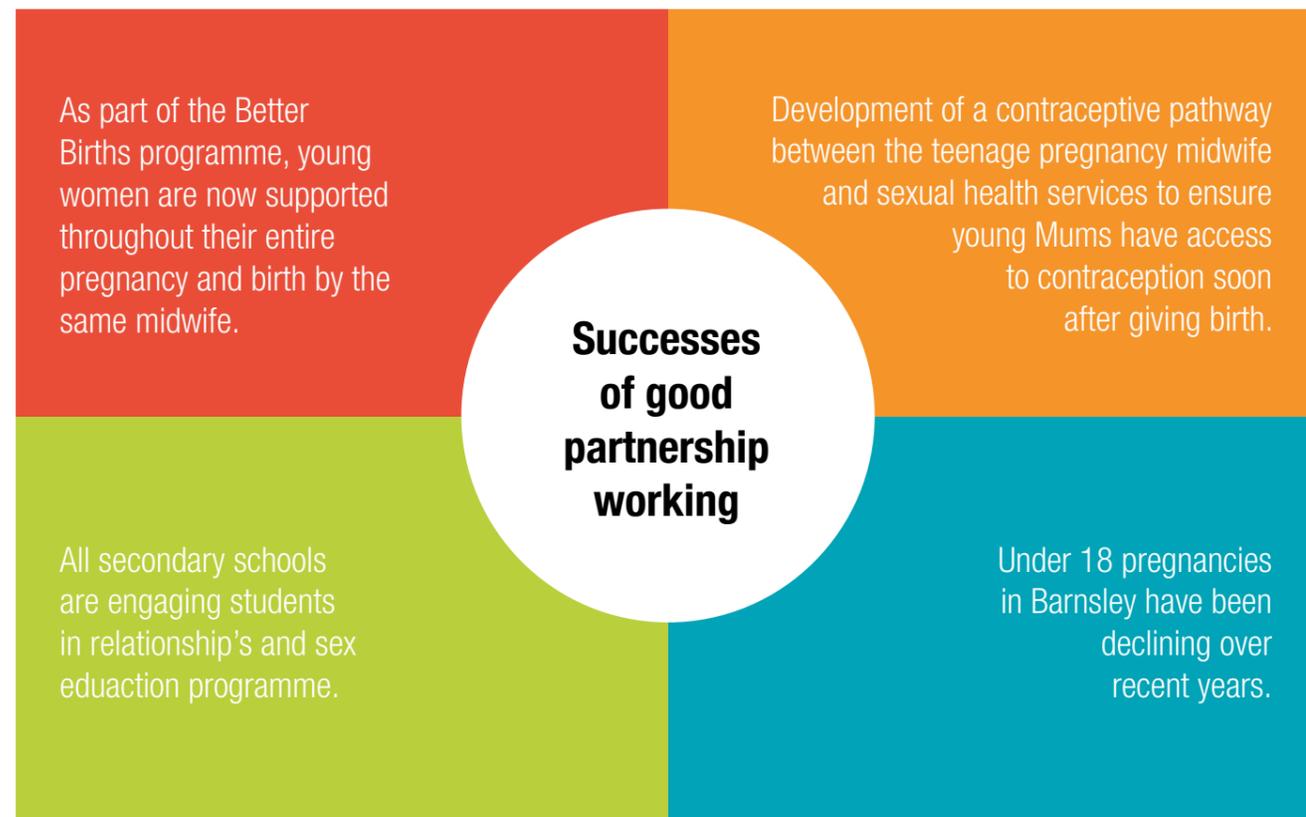
"At home things became easier, not perfect, but changes started to happen."

"Although I know there will be challenges ahead, I can deal with them now."

"Really enjoyed the last 14 weeks and have gained new skills and confidence and I feel less stressed or angry."

"This programme has helped me and my family beyond words."

7.1.4 Reducing under 18 Pregnancies rates in Barnsley



We are actively working towards reducing the pregnancy rate amongst girls under 18 years, through strong partnership working.

The Preventing Teenage Pregnancy Partnership leads on this action and has been recognised as an example of good practice in helping to educate and prevent teenage pregnancies.

8. PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN 2018-19 – ANTI-POVERTY DELIVERY GROUP

8.1 Last year we said we would : Put in place the right help, in the right place at the right time by:

- Working with partners to finalise and launch the 'Barnsley Food Vision': "Building a better Barnsley where everyone has the right to the food they need to thrive." Under which all food-related activities can be aligned and coordinated.
- Seeking to develop and expand the Alexandra Rose Voucher Scheme.
- Seeking funding to build on and expand the 'Holiday Hunger' school holiday activities to more Area Council locations on a need basis, embedding the work within the community.
- Working with Business Intelligence to develop a local indicator linked to Area Council profiles to inform and underpin anti-poverty activities.

We have:

- Built on the shared Barnsley Food Vision and started the work to set up Good Food Barnsley Community Interest Company. This is led and coordinated by our Community and Voluntary Sector partners. This will bring together the work of a wide range of groups and partners delivering food support in communities across Barnsley to develop a 'Food Ladder' approach to supported access to food.
- Expanded the Alexandra Rose Voucher Scheme to include the Dearne, South and Central area. This is helping families to increase the amount of fruit and vegetables in their diet and access additional support through the links to Family Centres. As the vouchers are redeemed in local markets and shops, it encourages families to shop locally. Between June 2017 and May 2018, 379 families, benefitted and £78,000 vouchers were redeemed within the local economy.
- Secured government funding to build on and expand the summer holiday activities with the food programme. Localities with the highest deprivation were selected for delivery of Barnsley Healthy Holidays 'holiday clubs', providing fun activities for families by trusted local partners with healthy food provided. In the 2018 summer break, 744 healthy meals and snacks were served at 200 events over 23 different locations across the borough, which were attended by 4,922 children and young people.



8.1.1 Develop strong partnership working and leadership through:

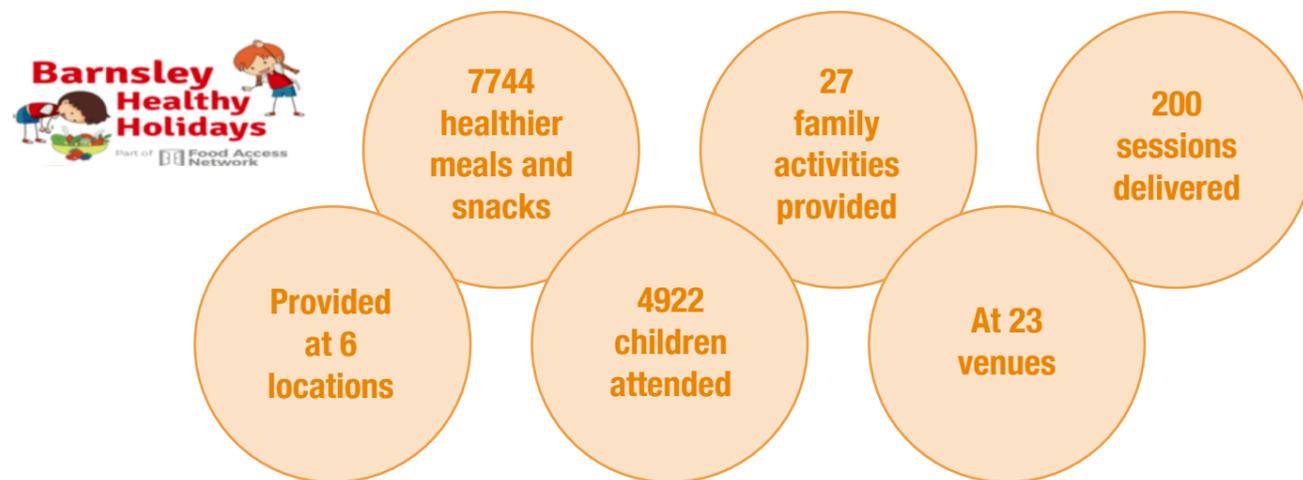
- a) Continuing to support and develop the community partner leadership of the anti-poverty priority groups under the Food Access and Financial Resilience themes.
- b) Continuing to support and champion links to wider early help activities related to anti-poverty outcomes including, targeted employment support and child poverty responses.

8.1.2 Targeted employment support:

We have used new funding from the European Social Fund to deliver the Pathways Project. This is a needs-led programme, providing targeted employment support for unemployed people to get them back into work quickly. It also gives extra help to those with multiple and complex barriers helping them to access training and secure employment.

8.1.3 Child Poverty:

We have targeted both the 'Alexandra Rose Food' voucher scheme and Healthy Holidays work in areas of the borough with the highest needs.



8.2 Last year we said we would : Empower people and communities to build capacity and resilience, so they can to do more for themselves by:

- Continuing to support the development of local partner and stakeholder groups for the priority themes, offering them a platform to be involved in and inform the development and delivery of anti-poverty activities.
- Encouraging the development of local volunteer, peer support involvement or community delivery. These include the Food Access Network, Homelessness Alliance and associated task and finish groups; for example, Holiday Hunger, Universal Credit Task Group.
- Supporting joint funding bids from community partners to enable the delivery of anti-poverty activities; for example, Feeding Britain bid to Department for Education for Holiday Hunger funding.
- 'Moving on' support pathways into employment and skills support for residents affected by Universal Credit, building on the Digital and Personal Budgeting Support accessed.
- Continuing to support the delivery of joined-up training and information linked to alleviating fuel poverty, developing financial resilience, responding to the impact of welfare reforms.



We have:

8.2.1 Continued support of the development of local partner and stakeholder groups for the priority themes:

- The Homelessness Alliance has been established; this multi-agency group offers a forum where partners come together to work collectively to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping.
- The Food Access Network was consulted on the food mission and vision to promote the next stage developments of the Food Partnership.

8.2.2 A small task group of partners came together to develop a local model for a Fuel Bank. They secured funding and started a pilot scheme in mid-January. To date, 36 applications have been made, and 14 vouchers awarded with an average value £50 for gas and electric. The remaining applicants have received other support to maximise their income, prioritise finances, or negotiate with suppliers.

8.2.3 Nine sessions of National Energy Action (NEA) Fuel Poverty Training sessions have been delivered to 147 attendees from the council and partner services.

Support with employment

Lesley came to see us after leaving her cleaning job of seven years due to bullying. She wanted help to get back into work. She met Heath, a JOBS Pathway Advisor at the Cudworth Centre of Excellence, and told him how she struggled with creating a CV and online job applications, as most of her previous jobs had been through word-of-mouth.

Lesley explained she wanted to get straight back into work and not have to claim benefits. Together they completed a CV, uploaded it onto job search websites and applied for jobs. They had immediate replies, and Lesley was back in a new cleaning job within a few weeks. As part of Barnsley Council's commitment to 'in work support', the job pathway advisor kept in touch and all is going well.

9. HOW WE WILL DELIVER IN 2019/20

The partnership recognises the challenge that services across the sector are currently facing and that significant changes are required to transform the way services operate. To be able to provide affordable and sustainable support, we must operate broader than the formal boundaries:

- When dealing with issues that have a negative impact on people's lives.
- When helping to change lifestyle behaviours across the population to improve wellbeing and resilience.

For the next period, the above areas will be considered through our two delivery groups, [Early Help Adults](#) and [Early Help Children](#).

The **Anti-Poverty delivery group's** activities have come to a successful conclusion bringing together its broad range of partners to work in a more collaborative way. The two specific operational groups for the 'Food Access' and 'Financial Resilience' activities will now take forward the priority areas previously led by this group.

Their nominated leads will report into the Early Help Adults Group, this frees up partners' time to concentrate on the tasks and delivery, whilst remaining connected to the Stronger Communities Partnership governance arrangements.



10. OUR FOCUS IN 2019/20

The Stronger Communities Partnership Board delivery groups will be focussing on the following areas for the period 2019/20.

10.1 Early Help Adults delivery group

In 2019-2020 we will:

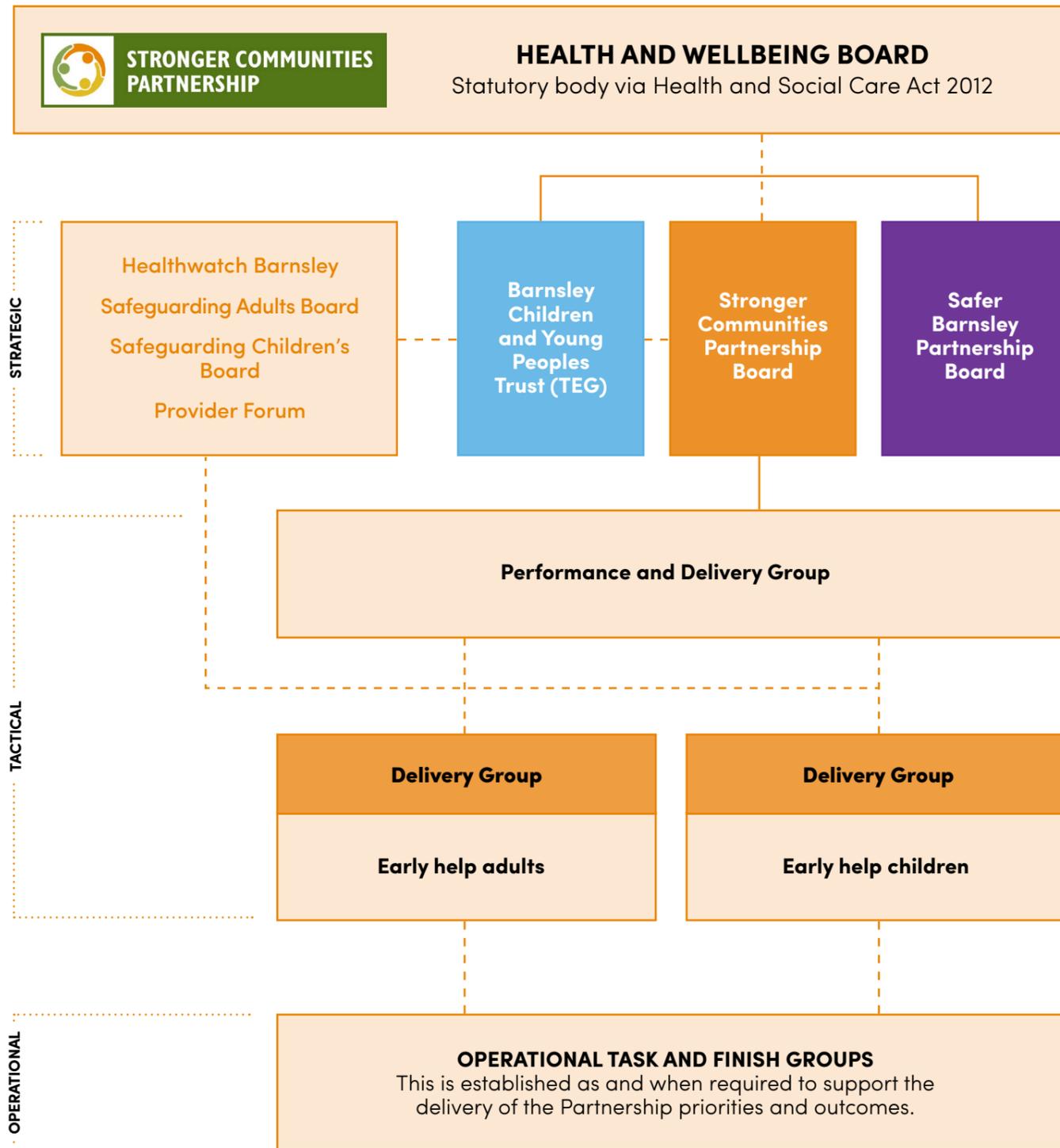
1. Reduce Excess Winter Deaths to 25% by 2020.
2. Develop 'Able' service to improve customer experience further.
3. Deploy 'Warm Homes' grant money to help people out of fuel poverty.
4. Increase the uptake of social prescribing support, specifically in secondary care.
5. Ensure the needs of armed forces veterans are met.
6. Reduce falls by establishing a pathway for preventing falls in our communities.
7. Reduce inequalities for people with a learning disability by helping them to access an annual health check.
8. Strengthen our approach to service user and carer engagement.
9. Implement our armed forces covenant.
10. Establish a learning disabilities, strategic health and social care improvement group.
11. Ensure that people and their carers' are supported to live with dementia.
12. Continue to support and help vulnerable groups to access, secure and sustain employment to improve their overall health and wellbeing.
13. Provide accessible and understandable universal information and advice which supports residents and communities to access timely early help.
14. Develop and promote wellbeing services.
15. Continue to support the implementation of the Age-Friendly Action Plan.
16. Work with the voluntary sector to increase its resilience and capacity.

10.2 Early Help Children delivery group

In 2019/20 we will:

1. Improve understanding of the health contribution to early help and increase its input.
2. Develop the Parenting Pathway and strategy including specialist parenting.
3. Implement Preventing Teenage Pregnancy action plan.
4. Implement an action plan with adult substance misuse providers to increase early help to families.
5. Implement Reducing Parental Conflict project.
6. Implement Child Criminal Exploitation project.
7. Increase alignment of Early Help and services for children and young people who have SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities).
8. Implement the Families Fund Physical Activity Project.

11. MONITORING THE DELIVERY OF OUR ANNUAL PLAN



12. DELIVERING OUR PRIORITIES

The Stronger Communities Partnership has overall responsibility for making sure that we deliver against the shared priorities set out in this plan. We will make sure that progress and key issues that link into other boards are reported accordingly. To further ensure this collaborative approach exists between the boards, there is in place an 'Inter-Partnership Joint Working Protocol'.

Both our delivery groups will report progress to the Board's Performance and Delivery group. Activities against each group's delivery plan will be time-bound so impact can be measured and evidenced.



13. RESOURCES

All services are going through an unprecedented time of austerity measures, and resources are under significant pressure. Our focus is on targeting our collective resources to identified needs and meets our intended outcome. Early help is an approach, not necessarily a service. The Partnership's intention is a guide to support partners and maximise opportunities to pool resources, working across the sectors to create a solid foundation to deliver this strategy.

STRONGER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP (PLAN ON A PAGE 2019-2020)

STRATEGIC VISION

Our strategic vision for our communities is to be healthy, resilient, and confident to have the skills to thrive and achieve their full potential.

OUR PRIORITIES

Our main priorities for this period are:

- Put in place the right help, in the right place at the right time.
- Develop strong partnership working and strong leadership.
- Empower people and communities to build capacity and resilience so that they can do more for themselves.

DELIVERY AGAINST OUR PRIORITIES

Our priorities will be delivered through two groups, which are:

- Early Help Adults delivery group.
- Early Help Children delivery group.

THE OUTCOME TO BE ACHIEVED BY THE TWO DELIVERY GROUPS IN RESPECT OF THE THREE PRIORITIES

Each sub-group will achieve the following outcomes by the year end:

Each delivery will be working towards meeting the following outcome by the end of the year.

Early Help Adults delivery group will ensure that:

- More people have a warm home and able to access health and wellbeing support when required.
- People are provided with information when in the hospital to ensure they recover well in their own home.
- Armed forces veterans are supported where required by working together, and implement our armed forces covenant well.
- Vulnerable people are supported to access information and help with all aspects of life such as education, employment, training and wellbeing.
- People with dementia live well, and Barnsley has a clear plan to be an age-friendly community.

Early Help Children delivery group will ensure that:

- There's even better working with health partners, and parents are better supported with specialist help.
- There are fewer teenage pregnancies and planned early support where needed.
- Families with substance misuses problems are supported early.
- Projects are undertaken to help reduce parental conflicts and child criminal exploitation incidences.
- Early help focusses on vulnerable children and young people in particular with special educational needs and disabilities.
- We implement the families fund physical Activity project.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS:

We will measure our achievements through key performance indicators and case studies that demonstrate:

- The impact of a joined-up approach with all our partners.
- That the person in need is placed at the centre of their support planning process.
- An increase in user satisfaction with the support they have received.
- A reduction in the level of repeated requests for support in key areas such as hospitals and social care.

CONTACTING US

If you need help understanding this document contact email us at:

sferb-strongerc@barnsley.gov.uk

If you need to report instances of anti-social behaviour or crime call 101 or 999 in an emergency.

If you need to report environmental crime such as graffiti, fly tipping, unauthorised encampments and issues with private sector housing visit:

www.barnsley.gov.uk



**STRONGER COMMUNITIES
PARTNERSHIP**