

Community Partnership COVID-19 News E-Bulletin May, 2020

Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership

The Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership (CP) area has received over 100 referrals for help and support since the beginning of the pandemic in March. Chloe Lee (Communities Officer for this area) has been working closely with different charities and organisations throughout this time. This has been critical to ensuring the community has access to the appropriate support. Basic Life Charity has been one of those Chloe has been in close contact with. They have adapted their Food Bank to adhere to social distancing guidelines and are working alongside FACTS (Community Transport) to deliver essential food supplies to residents who are self-isolating or shielding who have been referred to the Communities team for help. In addition, FACTS have been delivering prescription medication from The Grove Pharmacy to residents aged over 70. This has been a huge help and has alleviated people's worries about being able to access the medicines they need during this time.

All the eight Community Partnership areas have seen a fantastic community response to the pandemic with groups and action being established quickly to help those most in need. In Felixstowe, Helping Hand's volunteers has been incredible over the last eight weeks ensuring that assistance has been provided to the most vulnerable in a timely way. Chloe Lee has worked in conjunction with Town Councillor and leader of the Felixstowe helping hands initiative, Darren Aitchison, and have been really impressed with the kindness of people going above and beyond each time they are asked to help someone in the local area.

The Salvation Army has also provided essential support during this crisis by providing food parcels and hot meals to the most vulnerable.

The Parish Councils in each location have been outstanding in responding to their Community's needs, including providing pop-up Food Banks, Good Neighbour Schemes, information websites and telephone befriending services for those experiencing loneliness.

Kesgrave, Martlesham and surrounding villages Community Partnership

During the COVID-19 response we have seen several community groups offering voluntary support to residents in the greatest need. We have embraced this, offered ongoing support to them, and maintained ongoing communication during this time. This has included discussing the work of the Community Partnership and how this may be of interest to them in the future. Through this crisis we have been able to build on our network of groups and contacts to help us meet our CP priorities over the coming years.