

Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board (AHWB)

Partner Quarterly Update for the Ashford Borough Council – Quarter 1: April to July 2016

<p>What's going on in our world</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elwick Place Development – Council approved funding to construct a mixed use leisure development incorporating cinema, hotel, food and beverage establishments, car park and retail use in Elwick Road. This is a significant development which will create a vibrant town centre through an enterprising approach. It helps ensure the borough council achieves its long-term objective of self-reliance using income generated through rents and business rates without the need for central government funding. The project illustrates the importance of the town centre and council's determination to stimulate the local economy. Announcement made that Cineworld has submitted a planning application for an IMAX screen at Eureka Leisure Park and confirmed the Elwick Place cinema is to be a Picturehouse theatre• Park Mall – The work to revitalise Park Mall has been welcomed by Damian Green MP, who in February visited the ever-improving shopping centre that was bought by Ashford Borough Council in 2015.• M20 Junction10a – The formal Development Consent Order application is due to be submitted in mid-July 2016, with a start on site in late 2017, with about an 18 months construction period.• Victoria Road - Leading property regeneration company U+I is given planning permission to bring forward 660 homes and new amenities across two sites in Ashford with a total value of £180 million. Both sites are in close proximity to the station. The proposed schemes for both sites, designed by local architect, Guy Holloway, will help to create over 200 jobs for the local area and build a new community on Victoria Road, which is already benefiting from significant public realm investments and improved highway infrastructure.• Repton Connect (the new Community Centre) – Planning permission approved in February 2016. The contract for the works will be announced at the end of Junewith completion in summer 2017 being planned. A Trust is being created to manage the building.• Bridgefield Park – A consultant/project manager will be appointed in the summer to coordinate play facilities and amenities for the Park for build in 2017.• Designer Outlet Centre Extension - Resolution to grant planning permission subject to a s106 agreement which should be signed shortly.• Spearpoint Pavillion - The old Spearpoint Pavilion building has now been demolished and site preparation is underway. The new building is almost complete.• Victoria Park –A Heritage Lottery Fund bid application for the fountain and surrounding piazza area of the park expected late June 2016.• Development Update – go to http://www.ashford.gov.uk/development-update• Ashford Voice – See May edition via http://ashfordvoice.ashford.gov.uk/may/welcome/welcome-to-mays-issue-of-ashford-voice Note HWB members can use our monthly 'e-zine' for their own news.• Ashford International Model Railway Education Centre (AIMREC) – Planning permission granted and Cabinet recommendation to Council to provides a secured loan to AIMREC. Work on securing land continues.• Charing applies to become a designated neighbourhood area - If approved this will allow the parish council to carry out its own neighbourhood planning.
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<p>Success stories since last AHWB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dementia awareness week – assisted promoting the Ashford Dementia Action Alliance event i.e. a Tea party for the Queen’s 90th. • Safety in Action – Following the continued success of our Annual Safety In Action event, the latest event took place on for a two week period from 13th June – 24th June 2016. It was held at the Rare Breeds Centre Woodchurch. This year the event involved engagement with nearly 1300 year 6 pupils (10-11 year olds) from 38 out of the 39 local primary schools. It was a huge success.
<p>What we are focusing on for the next quarter <u>specific to the key projects</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Weight – On-going work on how best to target those groups most in need. A report on Ashford’s draft obesity plan will go to July’s AHWB. The Obesity Task Group has been set up and has met. There are five strands that sit under the Kent Strategy. A further task group meeting is planned to progress work and look at what can be done over and above the Kent Strategy. Initiatives will target vulnerable groups.
<p>Anything else relevant to AHWB priorities NOT mentioned above</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan – The Council’s draft Local Plan was issued for public consultation on the 15 June. Open for comments until the 10 August 2016. More details at http://www.ashford.gov.uk/local-plan-2030. • Development Update – Latest newsletter that provides an update on the latest position on the main Local Plan documents and how they are progressing. Available at http://www.ashford.gov.uk/development-update • Ashford Homelessness Review and draft Homelessness Strategy consultation – open until 15th July. Responses can be submitted on-line. • Create Music Festival. What: To be part of the new Create Music Festival ‘Love Ashford Zone’, please email emily.holland@ashford.gov.uk Where: Victoria Park, South Ashford When: Saturday 23 July, 11:30 – 21:00 • Links: www.createfestival.co.uk • Parkrun – press release issued in support of Parkrun and indicating on intention to introduce a charge for use of Victoria Park. Ashford’s HWB mentioned in the press release in the context of obesity being priority. Parkrun for juniors (4-14) is ever increasing in popularity. • ‘On Your Feet Britain’ Day - Council staff participated this event which tied in with Workplace Wellness Week. • Mental Health Awareness Week 2016 – Council staff provided with information on depression and our Employee Assistance Programme was promoted. • Workplace Wellness Week April 2016 for Council staff focusing on physical, emotional and mental health • Monthly Council Root and Branch article ‘Wellbeing Wonders’ - focusing on different topics each month. • Conningbrook Lakes - closed due to the growth of blue-green algae. However there are plenty of other health related things to take part in, including walks with KWT (Kent Wildlife Trust) and Ashford Leisure Trust (ALT) • Big Boys Do Cry Samaritan Campaign – This initiative is to try and break down the barriers that prevent suicidal men from seeking help. The poster is being displayed in some of the Borough’s public conveniences and an unveiling event by the Mayor took place on 12th July.
<p>Strategic challenges & risks including</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent Police changes - Ashford is now combined with Shepway within the East Division under Chief Inspector Elmes and the changes are now in operation.

horizon scanning?	
Any thing else the Board needs to know	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junk food advertising - The LGA has called for councils to be granted more freedom to ban junk food advertising near schools. The LGA says banning such advertising near schools, nurseries and children's centres would reduce children's exposure to unhealthy food. • NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) - reviewing programme of mobile blood donation sessions in Ashford. NHSBT runs a travelling bloodmobile vehicle based out of Ashford. As part of their review, they are considering disestablishing this vehicle meaning that instead we will be asking donors to give blood at a different session near to their home address. They stress that there will still be plenty of blood donation sessions in the area, so every donor that wants to give blood will still be able to do so. They continue to run a number of sessions in public venues throughout the area. • KCC Domestic Abuse Service Integration - consultation on the delivery of its commissioned Domestic Abuse Support Services - http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/DAService/consultationHome • Heritage Trail - A new, exciting trail highlighting Ashford Town Centre's heritage sites was launched on Sunday 5th June. Details at: http://www.ashford.gov.uk/ashford-heritage-trail
Signed & dated	Sheila Davison – 5 July 2016