


Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board (AHWB)

Partner Quarterly Update for the Ashford Borough Council – Quarter 1: April to June 2017

<p>What's going on in our world</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conningbrook Lakes (New development) – Clarion housing group purchased the site from ABC and Brett Group in March 2017 and intend to commence construction of 300 high-quality new private homes in September 2017 with sale and marketing commencing in December and first occupations expected in Spring 2018.• Working to become Dementia Friendly – ABC has been a member of the Ashford Dementia Action Alliance since 2014 and is now working to become dementia friendly and applying for the recognition symbol. This is in line with our corporate plan priority of supporting our growing senior population to lead full and independent lives. ABC will work cross-service and with partners, businesses and other organisations to encourage them to become dementia friendly. Also to embed dementia training within the Council's training and induction programmes.• Danemore sheltered housing scheme – Works started in May. The £9m project will see the rebuild of 34 dementia friendly units with an estimated completion in early summer 2018.• Elwick Place Development – Works have commenced on the construction of this mixed-use leisure development incorporating cinema, hotel, food and beverage establishments, car park and retail use in Elwick Road.• Elwick Road Temporary Car Park – Construction just started on this new car park located opposite the college. Approximately 100 spaces will be available from Autumn 2017. Permits available for parking.• Commercial Quarter (CQ 38) – Quinn Estates started construction of the new office building in January. The first phase of the Commercial Quarter will see 80,500 sq ft of exceptional and adaptable office space developed, along with retail and restaurants on the ground floor, public realm improvements and additional car parking. The building is due for completion in spring 2018. For more information about Ashford's priority regeneration projects and many success stories visit www.ashfordfor.com.• Repton Connect (the new Community Centre) – Works on going. Building offering an activity/meeting space, large field, a multi-use games and a car park should be open winter 2017/18.• Bridgefield Park (Kingsnorth) – Play facilities and amenities for the new park in Kingsnorth. Planning application approved for play facilities and amenities in February 2017. Construction starts late summer with completion in May 2018.• Ashford College, Elwick Road – Creative Arts Show took place between 23rd and 29th June. Freshers Fair planned for Thursday 28 September at the new campus on Elwick Road from 11:30-14:00; the Community Safety Unit will be co-ordinating a number of items for the event.• M20 Junction10a - Examination in public closed on 2 June. A decision on the Development Consent Order needed to build the
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	<p>junction being made by December 2017 at the latest. CLG has agreed to forward fund developer contributions element of funding agreement to forward fund with repayment to HCA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designer Outlet Centre Extension - planning permission issued and s106 agreement reached. Amendments to the design agreed. Construction starts shortly. • Ashford Voice – See latest edition of the council's newsletter via http://www.ashford.gov.uk/search/text-content/ashford-voice-out-now-28th-june-817. • Ashford International Model Railway Education Centre (AIMREC) – Looking for a more feasible site in the town centre. • Kestrel Park – Families, residents and visitors attended the official opening of this on 16th June. Kestral Park is an open space located at Brisley Farm, Kingsnorth. • Active Everyday (activities for the over 60's) – The calendar can be downloaded via the following link http://www.ashford.gov.uk/active-everyday. • Conningbrook Lakes (Activities): The lakes have been temporarily closed due the discovery of blue algae but levels are low. Works that aim to reduce the algae will be complete by the autumn. An open day event on 9 September (11am-5pm) will showcase activities and groups.
Success stories since last AHWB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety in Action 2017 – This year's two-week event for Year 6 children took place in June at the Rare Breeds Centre with 38 borough schools attending. The event included a number of workshops including some around road safety and healthy relationships. • Ashford's Create Music Festival, 22nd July – Create has been awarded Cultural Event of the year at 2017 Kent Creative Awards. • Healthy Weight & Smoking – ONE YOU Health Shop given go-ahead to continue for a further 2 years following on from the initial trial period. • Retail: The vacancy rate for empty shop units in Ashford is currently at an all-time low.
What we are focusing on for the next quarter <u>specific to the key projects</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria Park redevelopment - A first stage Heritage Lottery Fund 'Parks for People' application, total cost of £4m for the refurbishment of the park looks promising. • Chilmington – Further to the previous update, work is ongoing to discharge planning conditions and enable submission of reserved matters applications. Expected timetable for full consent is autumn 2017 where upon developers will mobilise for detailed designs and house building. First residents expected autumn/early winter 2018. Proving layouts for the community hub as well as the health provision nearing agreement. Currently includes provision for GP's as per the S106. Reasonably urgent discussions planned with East Kent NHS (Wendy Malkinson, Simon Perks and Neil Fisher) over degree of fit with NHS long-term plans and, at the developer's request, to include them also. The matter of concern remains that NHS planning does not coincide with the development plan for Chilmington.

<p>Anything else relevant to AHWB priorities NOT mentioned above</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Horizon/Vulnerabilities Investigation Team - Presentation given to Ashford Community Safety Partnership on this new team, which is due to be in place in September 2017. • Syrian refugees – ABC Refugee Resettlement Project is continuing to work closely with statutory, voluntary and business partners to support the Syrian Refugee families in Ashford to settle and integrate. We are developing our programme to enhance well-being by building on resilience and encouraging peer group support. We will be exploring and working to develop, in conjunction with the CCG, appropriate support services for individuals diagnosed with specific mental health needs where such support cannot currently be locally through NHS services. Ashford's model for supporting resettled refugees has engendered interest nationally from central government, other local authorities and academic research bodies. The project continues to be a learning process for all agencies involved. Ashford currently has 13 families totalling 61 individuals. The biggest barrier to project development continues to be acquisition of suitable affordable properties. This is a major problem all over the South East region. • Local Plan – The Cabinet has agreed a series of proposed changes to the draft Local Plan in June. Public consultation on the changes is scheduled to commence on 7th July and run until the 31st August. There are revised requirements for additional housing over the Plan period to 2030 with around a further 1500 dwellings to be planned for and consequently several new site allocations are now being proposed, mainly in the rural parts of the borough. More details at http://www.ashford.gov.uk/local-plan-2030. • Development Update – Latest newsletter highlights the unprecedented levels of inward investment. Focus on the major projects that now being delivered. Available at http://www.ashford.gov.uk/development-update. • Ashford Heritage Strategy – The strategy, which is currently in draft form, sets out the Council's aims and objectives to safeguard Ashford's historical assets and develop the borough's cultural offer for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. The formal consultation is due to commence mid-July. • Air Quality Strategy – Work is also progressing at a county level with KCC pulling together a Low Emissions Strategy and Action Plan. This has been supported by the Kent and Medway Air Quality Partnership and the Kent Environment Strategy (KES) Steering Group. KCC's Head of Sustainable Business and Communities is also involved in the revision to the Kent Health & Wellbeing Strategy and further incorporating green space, air quality, cold/warm homes, climate change impacts e.g. flooding.
<p>Strategic challenges & risks including horizon scanning?</p>	
<p>Any thing else the Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grenfell Tower: Ashford Borough Council has confirmed that it does not have any high-rise tower blocks in the borough within its housing stock. All fire risk assessments were updated this year with no

needs to know	<p>outstanding priority actions. There is a “stay put” policy in place, but every block has a fire action plan and grade D smoke detectors. Following on from the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in June the authority has been in contact with colleagues at Kent Fire and Rescue Service and will work with them to ensure working practices continue to follow the best advice and are efficient. Matters will be reviewed and any necessary action will be taken on any appropriate recommendations made following the Grenfell investigation.</p>
Signed & dated	<p> Sheila Davison – 7 July 2017</p>