

Be Healthy, Be Happy Strategy

Annual Report 2022-23



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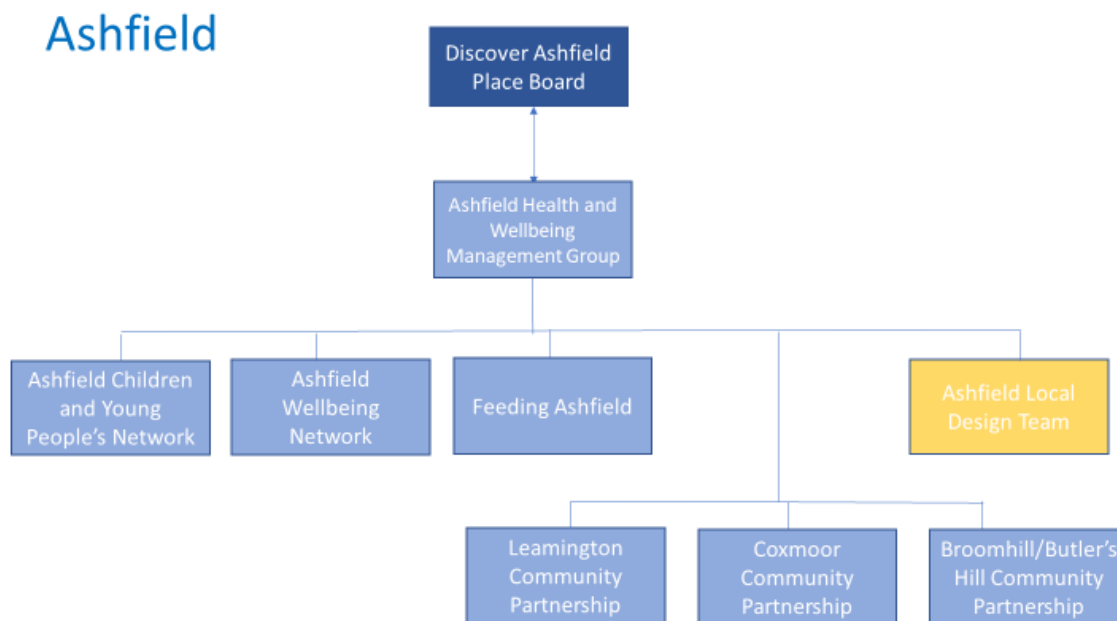
Everyone who lives in Ashfield leads a healthy and happy life

Mission

To work collaboratively to help people improve their health and wellbeing, develop pride and aspiration in our communities and promote Ashfield in a positive manner.

The Be Healthy, Be Happy Strategy was launched in February 2021. This annual plan aims to share some of the progress and projects that have been a key focus for 2022-23, the second year of the strategy.

During this year, there has been a great deal of effort put into strengthening the health and wellbeing partnership in Ashfield. This includes new members to the management group, and realignment of some of the subgroups to create greater efficiencies, more joined up working, and stronger alignment to both the Mid and South Notts Place Based Partnerships.



A new network has been developed with a focus on children and young people, following the recognition that there wasn't a place stakeholders could connect, share, action plan and collaborate specifically for Ashfield. This led to the Ashfield Wellbeing Network being created. It combines the Ashfield Community Development Group, Ashfield Innovation Forum and Ashfield Health and Wellbeing Partnership into one, recognising that although each was slightly different, there was a lot of duplication in the discussions and information sharing that was taking place.

The work of the Ashfield Local Design Team has also been connected to the new structure and will be utilised to carry out short cycles of work to inform and guide the work of the partnership as we move into the next delivery year.

As well as changes to the structure, the partnership continues to focus on how we work.

We are connecting with partners from all sectors, that work with residents living in areas with some of the highest health inequalities in Nottinghamshire, to better understand what it will take to support residents lead healthier lifestyles. We have been coming together to share knowledge and understanding to then enable the right provision and support to be available.

The work is enabling and creating the conditions for working collaboratively. Rather than working in silos and keeping hold of our own knowledge and understanding we are trying to work together. This involves taking time to get to know each other and work out how we will do this, while ensuring those with lived experience are embedded, informing and shaping the work.

Pete Edwards

Independent Chair

Ashfield Health and Wellbeing Partnership
Management Group



Our Values...

Inclusive and Respectful

We want everyone to feel that they are involved and that their views are heard.



We will acknowledge and embrace difference, encouraging different perspectives.

In doing this we will seek to understand, not challenge and use this as a strength to build a shared understanding. We will use data and lived experience to help identify where to focus our energies and work with residents to enable inclusivity.



Ambitious and Committed

We are ambitious in our desire to create a culture of collaboration across all sectors and communities where we work towards shared goals and learn together.

We will be brave and committed to working in this way, shifting our individual and collective behaviours to enable this way of working to happen.

Collaboration

Individuals and organisations are connected, and relationships are important. We will develop shared goals and an understanding of the work we want to do together.

In doing this we will recognise the role we can play individually and collectively, working beyond organisational boundaries to explore how to create change together.



Person Centred

We will put people at the centre of everything we do, recognising that everyone and every community is different and what matters to them is what matters to us.

We will spend time understanding reaching those who do not usually have a voice and have ongoing authentic conversations to understand what is important to them.

Innovation

We will be led by insight to focus our energies and think creatively as to how we engage with residents to understand what is important to them.

We will encourage 'trying new' and testing different approaches to help us understand what creates change, what doesn't and most importantly, why.

We will create a culture of learning where we celebrate innovation, encouraging people to be creative and test ideas, by putting them into practice so that we can learn from them to inform what needs to happen next.



BEST START

Give every child and young person the best chance of maximising their potential.

Breastfeeding Friendly Scheme



In April 2022, the Breastfeeding Friendly Scheme in Ashfield was relaunched. Five venues were already leading the way, which has grown to 15 over the course of the year. The venues support breastfeeding in public areas, provide a clean, welcoming, and comfortable environment, ensure staff are positive and helpful and where possible, offer privacy to feed if preferred.

Healthy Start and Free School Meals

Healthy Start offers free fruit, vegetables, milk and vitamins to pregnant women and parents with children under four, in receipt of certain benefits. In Ashfield, partners have worked together to increase the awareness and take of the scheme. 1006 families are now accessing the vouchers, out of the 1411 eligible within the district.



up

Families can access Free School Meals for children and young people. The scheme provides a free hot meal during school terms for all children in infants (key stage one) and to children in families in receipt of certain benefits in juniors (key stage two) and secondary school.

Ashfield has the highest proportion of children eligible for free school meals within Nottinghamshire. Partners have worked together in the district to increase uptake and reduce the stigma attached to the scheme. Currently 5,283 children and young people are receiving a free school meal on a daily basis.

Feel Good Families



Feel Good Families continues to develop and grow from strength to strength, providing opportunities for public, private and voluntary organisations to come together through the new Children and Young People's Network.

The Feel Good Families Facebook page continues to promote free and low cost play and learning opportunities as well as key health messages and career opportunities for young people. The page now has over 1500 families within Ashfield engaged.

Through partnership working, we have been able to offer a variety of support, activities and events to enable us to deliver against our vision to raise aspirations, provide opportunities and encourage physical and emotional development within communities.

We have hosted over 20 events, handed out over 600 free swimming passes, provided targeted provision for individual children and young people, including junior gym memberships, soft play and swimming lessons.

Holiday Activities and Food Programme



Nottinghamshire County Council strengthened the delivery of the holiday activity and food (HAF) programme through the recruitment of new officers to increase the number of places available, support and increase the number of delivery partners, and broaden the range of activities. There were 1,287 attendances by primary school aged children and 118 attendances by secondary school aged children from Ashfield during the Easter, Summer and Autumn school holidays.

Big Spring Clean Planters



Local Children creating a school planter.

Sixteen primary schools across Ashfield have received planters, seeds, and bulbs as part of Ashfield District Council's Big Spring Clean, along with information about fair trade and recipe cards.

The planters were handmade by council staff using recycled wood donated by Door-Stop in Huthwaite, and filled with compost donated by Pro-Grow.

The planters will enable pupils to have hands-on experiences of growing their own vegetables and flowers whilst learning about the environment.

Opening School Facilities

Through the Opening Schools Facilities funding from the DFEE, the Ashfield Health and Wellbeing Partnership supported Active Notts to identify three key secondary schools in Ashfield; Holgate Academy (Hucknall), Outwood Academy (Kirkby) and Sutton Academy granting a total of £80,560 in 2022-23.

Pupil voice has guided what the funding has been used to purchase and the activities that are now starting to be delivered. In all three schools' fitness-based activities are proving a hit with the young people. The funding is helping schools target and enable less active pupils to enjoy being active beyond the school day. Instructors and coaches from local sports clubs are developing their links with the schools, now providing sessions on school site. Teachers have also benefited from additional training to help them tailor and develop provision for all pupils especially for girls and young people with special educational needs.

LIVING WELL

Create healthy and sustainable places.

Leisure Transformation

In August 2022, we opened a brand-new £15.5million leisure centre in Kirkby-in-Ashfield, replacing a very outdated building, securing £3million from Sport England and the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership towards capital costs.



Kirkby Leisure Centre
Health Hub



Ashfield District Council and Everyone Active hosted a community weekend to encourage residents to come and visit the new centre, with celebrities Ola Jordan, Eddie ‘the Eagle’ Edwards and three-times Paralympic gold medalist Ollie Hynd on hand to share their experiences and deliver activities. 100s of residents enjoyed free swimming, dance, soft play, and left with their face painted, having had a very enjoyable day.



Councillors officially opening Kirkby Leisure Centre

Across our three sites (Hucknall, Lammas and Kirkby) attendances have increased to over 1.34million, an increase of nearly 200,000 since 2019-20. Fitness memberships rose to 8,864 and swimming lesson memberships to 3,645, a record number. We generated £4.8m social value in 2022/23, against physical and mental health, wellbeing, individual development, and social and community development indicators.

We also invested significantly in carbon reduction measures, including new equipment, LED lighting, new air handling units, photovoltaic solar panels, and electric car charging points, and secured £1.3million for additional improvements at Hucknall from the Public Service Decarbonisation Scheme for additional photovoltaics.

Worked started on a second pool at Hucknall Leisure Centre, which will enable us to provide more swimming lessons to residents of Ashfield. The works are due to complete in Summer 2023.

Quotes from Everyone Active Customers



I've been going to Hucknall Leisure centre gym for 2 years. I wanted to get active, feel good about myself mentally and appearance too. The staff are really welcoming, and I recently had 3 PT sessions. I gained valuable knowledge of muscle groups, diet, and techniques I found helpful with my B-Tec PE at school.

Megan Turman, Hucknall Leisure Centre

The best gym I have ever been to. The staff are always so friendly and cheerful. There's no judgement, it's all just for fun and personal benefit.

Given the challenge of a million ailments, my personal trainer is tackling them all.

Benefits are helping me reduce my painkillers.

Tracey Revill, Kirkby Leisure Centre



Our local Leisure centre
is my favourite place by far
with every thing for sporting needs
it's worth a golden star

for swimming or for badminton
you've come to the right place
the pool inflatables are great
they always put a smile on my face

You can play tennis, squash as well
I cannot emphasise
just how amazing is the gym
for classes or just to exercise

Our leisure centre is so good
I think it's really great
I would give it a hundred percent
if I had to rate

A poem from Lauren Tanner (U11)
about Hucknall Leisure Centre

I absolutely love Lammas! It is like a second home! I enjoy my swimming lessons, and frequently use the tag active area! The staff are amazing! They go above and beyond for their customers! There is such a wide range of activities available for children my age! It is a safe place! I have also had my recent birthday at Lammas.

Rebecca Beresford, Lammas Leisure Centre

Active Communities

The Everyone Active Communities Team refocused their work in 2022 to include development of the health hubs at Lammas, Hucknall and Kirkby Leisure Centre, GP Exercise Referral, delivery of Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) provision and targeted interventions to support individuals identified by the partnership.

There is now a health hub available at each leisure centre. These spaces provide a place for community groups to come together at, with no hire charge. Each has its own kitchen facilities. A range of activities have developed including Singing for the Brain in partnership with Alzheimer's UK, Ashfield Citizen's Advice financial support, Hetty's and NIDAS support coffee mornings, and Your Health, Your Way weight management groups.



The poster features a photograph of five elderly people sitting in a circle, performing a stretching exercise with their arms raised. A red box in the top right corner contains the text 'GP Exercise Referral'. Below the photo, there is text describing the scheme and its benefits. At the bottom, there is a banner that reads 'EVERYONE IS STAYING ACTIVE' and logos for Ashfield District Council and everyone ACTIVE. A QR code is also present.

GP Exercise Referral

GP Exercise Referral supports individuals with long term health conditions to move more.

Suggested activities are individual to your goals and needs and may include; walking, walking sports, pool activities and meeting other people with long term health conditions.

Ask your healthcare professional to make your referral on your behalf or for more information, visit everyoneactive.com/GPReferral

Benefits are:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Manage and reduce pain
- Stay mobile
- Sleep better
- Improve your mood
- Sharpen your memory
- Have healthy muscles and bones
- Meet like-minded people

EVERYONE IS STAYING ACTIVE

Ashfield DISTRICT COUNCIL | everyone ACTIVE

The Exercise Referral scheme provides opportunities for people with underlying medical conditions, or those at risk of developing conditions to become more active in a safe and welcoming environment and raise awareness of the benefits of physical activity, helping to create long-term behavioural change. The 12-week programme is designed to help individuals self-manage their condition more effectively and with more confidence. 207 residents accessed the programme in 2023-23. The schemes most prevalent conditions for referral included diabetes, obesity and muscle and joint pain.

A strong working relationship continues with the work the Everyone Active Communities Team contribute to with Portland College. Learners have been supported throughout the year through exercise to music classes. Through the success of these sessions, a group of learners/students are now attending Kirkby Leisure Centre to access the inclusive swimming pool. Working together we have increased opportunities for learners who didn't previously access these services and facilities.



Portland
Charity

The team also provided warm hubs over the winter period at each of the sites. An offer of a warm space, hot drink and activities was provided on a weekly basis. These complemented a number of warm hub opportunities provided by community partners across the district.

Cost of Living

During the year, the cost of living challenged many residents within Ashfield. With rising costs including food and fuel, services and organisations worked together to provide support.

Ashfield District Council launched a Cost of Living Hub, and developed a special edition of Ashfield Matters, which was delivered through every door in the district. The magazine provided information about benefits, free events and activities, warm rooms, local services to provide residents with relevant information.



JOIN OUR **WARM HUBS** ACROSS ASHFIELD

Whether you are looking to make new friends, catch up with old friends, do a bit of exercise or just enjoy a hot drink and read a book in one of our cafés, then our Everyone Active Centres are exactly what you've been looking for. There will be an activity each week along with a free hot drink and a biscuit.

Free Access to Wi-Fi is available & charging facility for Phone/laptop

Sessions will run through out December, January & February. 'No need to book, just turn up'

- Meet up with friends
- Make new friends
- Stay active
- Enjoy a hot drink
- Play some board games
- Build a puzzle

	Mondays Kirkby Leisure Centre 10.30-12.00pm
	Tuesdays Hucknall Leisure Centre 1.30-3.00pm
	Wednesdays Lammas Leisure Centre 1.30-3.00pm

A warm welcome awaits you.





Everyone Active Warm Hubs

Ashfield **Cost of Living HUB**

On each of the pages within our hub you will find key information and links to help to support you or your business during the cost of living crisis. You can find information on:

- Benefits, Council Tax, and Housing support
- Council services support
- Support for businesses
- Money, bills and debt support
- Health and wellbeing support
- Support from other organisations

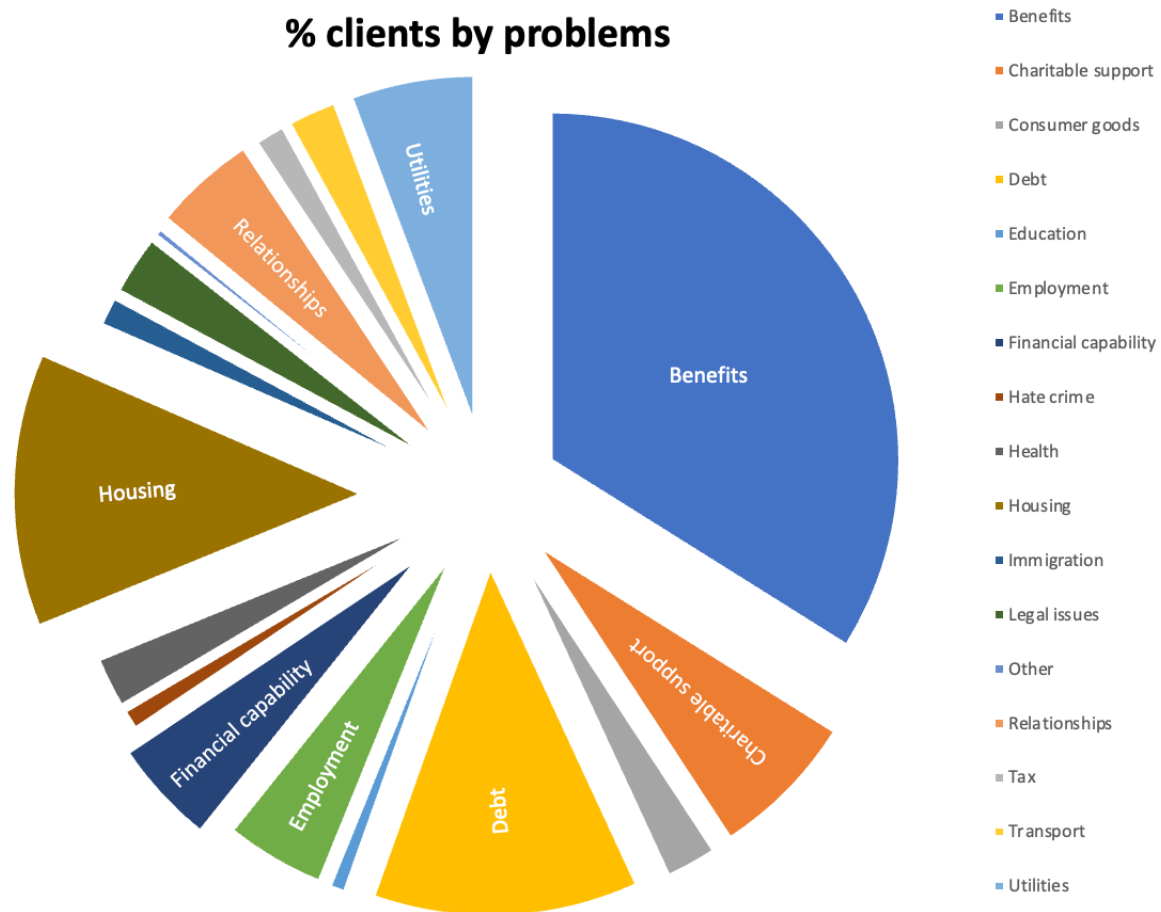



www.ashfield.gov.uk/cost_of_living_support

Ashfield District Council Cost of Living Hub

Ashfield Voluntary Action produced a Cost of Living Directory, which was circulated far and wide, providing both professionals and residents with valuable information and ways to get help.

Ashfield Citizens Advice helped 4,396 individuals with 14,160 problems. Over 50% of the people supported live with a long-term health condition or disability. Mainly people asked for help with income, housing and debt, and with rising costs support with utility bills. By helping people to improve their financial resilience, people supported were able to increase their income by over £900,000 in total.



Support requests received by Ashfield Citizen’s Advice 2022-23

Mid Notts Place Based Partnership worked with Nottingham Energy Partnership (NEP) to identify Ashfield residents who are at risk of cold-related harm and who are likely to be eligible for free or subsidised domestic retrofit measures.

A screening programme identified vulnerable residents most at risk, and social prescriber link workers and care navigators made contact via phone to talk through the options available to them.

29 households were able to take advantage of 95 support measures, including access to free services, foodbank vouchers and energy performance certificates.

42 households were supported to write applications for home insulation, heating and renewable energy services.

In total, £120,000 of funding was secured for residents in the district.



Mill Waters

The Willow Tree Memory Café provides walks, activities, games, crafts and socialising for people living with dementia and their carers. Sessions are supported by regular volunteers and due to their popularity have increased to twice a month.

A core group volunteers meet regularly to litter pick and keep the sites looking clean and tidy. We've provided group litter picking opportunities for local businesses to undertake their Corporate Social Responsibility offer.

Stone walling 'Have a Go' and training sessions were held for volunteers to learn new skills whilst restoring the historic stone walls on Sutton Lawn.

In partnership with Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue, two water safety awareness walks were held at Kingsmill Reservoir and Sutton Lawn.

In partnership with Notts Outdoors, Wild Tots! Wild Kids! and Wild Families! were launched and are proving very popular.

Discover Ashfield

Discover Ashfield celebrates all that is best about living, visiting, learning, working and doing business in Ashfield.

Two Evening to Discover Ashfield events were held in the district, using different community spots, to bring together people working, living, learning and visiting Ashfield to share ideas, connect and make new friends. We have seen partnerships flourish between education sectors and volunteers and also businesses offering their services under their social responsibility.

The Discover Ashfield Awards, held in November 2022, recognised and celebrated all that is great in Ashfield. Local people and organisations were recognised for the contribution they make to Ashfield. Those celebrating on the night included local community interest company Active Minds, Ashfield Voluntary Action, Mansfield Boxing Academy, Ashfield Rugby Club, Mill Waters café and many more. Liz Barrett (OBE), Ashfield's NHS, Gary Jordan (MBE) and Lieutenant Colonel Keith Spirts (OBE) all picked up special recognition awards, and Alan Rooksby received the first of a new annual Maryrose Philanthropy award, recognising those who give time, commitment and resources to local charities.



Discover Ashfield Awards 2022

AGEING WELL

Everyone can access the right support to improve their health.

Hucknall for Health

Get ready for a happier, healthier 2023 and join us at **Hucknall for Health!**

At the Hucknall for Health fair, you can collect a **FREE healthy food package**, get a health check and browse our stalls...

- Cost of living help
- Healthy lifestyle advice and support
- Mental health support
- Sports and activity opportunities
- Activities for the kids to take part in too!

Date: Saturday 25 February 2023
Venue: Hucknall Leisure Centre, Linby Road, NG15 7TX
Parking available
Time: 1pm to 5pm

Book your place - scan the QR code or search Hucknall for Health on www.eventbrite.com

Hucknall for Health Event Promotion

On Saturday 25 February, Byron Primary Care Network (PCN), hosted its first-ever Hucknall for Health event, at Hucknall Leisure Centre, focusing on residents' health and wellbeing. The afternoon was planned and organised by the breadth of partners working in the area.

There were 25 stalls with representatives from local health, care, community and voluntary organisations where they shared information about their services.

Ashfield Voluntary Action posted fliers through doors to raise awareness of the event, Nottingham Forest Community Trust provided sporting activities for children while parents and carers could browse the stalls and Everyone Active delivered four 20 minutes exercise taster sessions. People had the opportunity to have a health check with a local GP to screen for indicators that increase a person's risk for developing Type 2 diabetes. Thirty-five people took this opportunity, some of whom also had blood tests on the day to check their cholesterol and blood sugar levels.

Everyone who attended had the opportunity to take home either a free healthy food pack or a free blood pressure monitor.

The event was extremely well received with over 250 people attending during the day and this couldn't have happened without the great partnership work involved in planning and delivering the event.



Resident receiving a health check from Hucknall GP.



Your Health, Your Way

Your Health Your Way continues to offer free services across Ashfield to support residents to stop smoking, eat healthier, reduce alcohol intake, move more and have a healthy weight.

Seven face to face community sessions were delivered across the district which offer adult weight management, family weight management, physical activity and falls prevention, as well as 15 virtual sessions, including women’s only groups, yoga and chair-based dance.

In partnership with Hey Day Services, falls prevention support was provided to a group of 16 adults with dementia, and health checks were offered to staff at Kings Mill Hospital, leading to a weight management group for those interested.

During the year, over 3,800 referrals were received from across Ashfield. These include self-referrals and referrals from professionals. This led to over 1,000 outcomes including mental health improvement, becoming more physically active and achieving 5% weight loss.

Carer Friendly Events

The Ashfield Innovation Network joined forces to deliver three community events in Sutton-in-Ashfield with support from carer friendly organisations. The network was created to provide further opportunities for local people to find out what services and activities were available to them in their local area. The events were linked to national days recognising carers and older people. Over 26 organisations shared information with 700 people, who also got to experience school and local choirs, solo artists, and a visit from the Dementia Bus.



Attendees and local organisations at Ashfield Carer Friendly Events

HEALTH INEQUALITIES

Keep our communities safe and healthy.

Ashfield Voluntary Action

Ashfield Voluntary Action (AVA) provide support for local community groups, support for individuals and act as a broker for volunteering.



As part of this, AVA run a wide range of groups within Ashfield. These provide a safe and enjoyable environment and help people feel more connected, learn new skills, get back into employment and improve self-confidence.



Weekly activities organised by Ashfield Voluntary Action

As well as linking volunteers into other opportunities, AVA also provide opportunities for volunteers to help and support their own projects. This includes running the FAVA kiosk at the Ashfield Health and Wellbeing Centre. The kiosk provides hot and cold drinks, snacks, cakes, sandwiches and jacket potatoes to staff and service users. It enables the wonderful team of volunteers make new friends and gain confidence and new skills, sometimes supporting their development and growth back into employment.

Priority Places – Leamington, Broomhill/Butler’s Hill and Coxmoor

Funding has been secured through NHS England to reduce the health inequalities that exist in Broomhill/Butler’s Hill (Hucknall) and Coxmoor (Kirkby-in-Ashfield).

As part of this, AVA worked closely with Nottingham Trent University, Mid and South Notts Place Based Partnerships, Ashfield District Council, Active Notts and a range of community organisations to conduct research and consultation using a wide variety of approaches and routes into the community. Opportunities were created to speak with residents to gain a deeper understanding of the issues, challenges and opportunities faced by residents.

Community Partnerships were set up in both areas to provide a space for local organisations to come together to share their work, finds ways to support each other, and look at how to fill potential gaps or areas of need.

In Coxmoor, a raft of measures are being delivered to improve feelings of safety. Funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Home Office Safer Streets Fund. Locked gates have been installed to prevent access to alleyways following an overwhelming response from residents in favour of these restrictions.

A new partnership is being developed with Nottingham based organisation Switch Up, a bespoke service that caters for young people who are either involved in, or at risk of being involved in criminality and anti-social behaviour, as well as working with young people who are not in education, employment or training. The interventions will consist of physical activity, educational and support sessions which cover various topics such as drugs and alcohol, mental health, and employability.



Coxmoor Community Living Rooms have been created to take services to people may not otherwise be able to access them. To date, there have been eight living rooms attracting over 100 people from all walks of life that live on the estate.

We have learned all kinds of things and have offered support when people have asked for it from food parcels to referral to services to support drug misuse, whilst enjoying a warm drink and biscuits. We've found residents are more open to sharing their stories with us, whilst relaxing on a comfy sofa.



Coxmoor Community Living Room



Help Yourself Enjoy Christmas

Wednesday 23rd November 10 am- 12 pm
Free Event for Butlers Hill/ Broomhill residents
at the St John's Community Hall Hucknall



For more information Call: 01623 555 551
Email: y.hudson@ashfieldvoluntaryaction.org.uk

In Broomhill/Butler's Hill we are hearing about issues that concern residents including anti-social behaviour, cost and impact of changes to public transport, cost of living, difficulties accessing services and access to free or low cost local activities for families.

In response to this and as a way of developing relationships and trust to explore this further, a number of interventions have been put in place. This includes activities such as the 'Help Yourself Enjoy Christmas Event' organised by AVA.

£9,200 UK Shared Prosperity Funding was secured to provide a positive, free activity focussed on increasing cycling confidence and maintenance skills. A local organisation, Ridewise were recruited to lead the project.



Ridewise delivered a promotional campaign to build interest in donating bikes that were no longer needed, getting bikes refurbished and improving bike maintenance skills, and cycle confidence.

8 weeks of sessions took place at Hucknall Titchfield Park, including a Dr Bike 2-hour session (bike donating and maintenance) and 2 fun sessions, each one hour, with a maximum of 12 spaces each.

During the sessions, over 30 bikes were donated, refurbished and repurposed and the fun sessions all had over 90% occupancy.

Residents tended to attend 4 sessions to feel confident to ride a bike and there were high numbers of people getting involved with balance/mobility/behavioural and visual impairments.

Additional funding was secured to purchase and install a container on the park to house the bikes, which we hope to develop over time to become a cycling hub.

Linking with Feeding Ashfield, support was provided to St John's Church in Hucknall to set up a weekly community meal. Since November 2022, local families have been meeting after school to enjoy a healthy meal, play games and talk to other families and volunteers in safe and warm environment. This project is regularly supported by nearby OT Food Club.

In Leamington, the Community Partnership was launched in November 2022. A raft of organisations turned up to have discussions about how they might be able to offer services, activities and support to residents living on the Leamington estate.

An audit of local activities was carried out and this revealed that not only was there a shortage of activities, but those that were on offer, often weren't taken up by residents.

On the back of door knocking and talking to residents in the area, Everyone Active started a new seated exercise class at the Willets Court Community Centre in the heart of the area. 12 – 15 residents are attending weekly and benefitting from meeting new people, making new friends, and improving their overall health and wellbeing.

Events

Ashfield District Council organised and delivered a calendar of events across the district during the year. This included the first ever Ashfield Day, held on 27th August 2023 at Sutton Lawn.

12,000 people flocked to the park to enjoy the fantastic talent of the local performers on the entertainment stage, which included singing from Ollie Hayes, Ellie, Kirkby-based Empire Music School, and Josh Turner, alongside poetry readings from Kevin Jackson, and the historical play, the 17th Century Show, rounding off the on-stage entertainment.

Residents also enjoyed the outdoor cinema screenings of Paddington, Mrs Doubtfire, and Grease. Elsewhere on Sutton Lawn, visitors were able to experience the dog show, donkeys, pony rides, funfair rides, food and gift stalls, live music and arts, free face painting,

Disney princesses, and family activities such as circus skills, hula hoop megastructure, inflatable goals, giant garden games, and giant bubbles.

Local organisations and charities were able to share information about their services, and local traders were able to sell goods to residents.



Ashfield Day 2022

Ashfield District Council partnered with Discover Ashfield and Lincoln Green Brewery to host the Ashfield Food and Drink Festival. Over 35 stalls provided a range of freshly made food, drink and treats.



Ashfield Food and Drink Festival 2022

The Christmas Lights were turned on in style with events in Sutton, Kirkby, and Hucknall Town Centres.



Christmas Light switch ons 2022 at Hucknall, Kirkby and Sutton.

Armed Forces

The Armed Forces Covenant commitment ensures that Armed Forces personnel are not disadvantaged by their service whilst also being treated with fairness and respect in our society.

In Ashfield, we strive to publicise, maintain, and improve our offer to the Armed Forces community across the district. We are supporting organisations to work towards signing the Armed Forces Covenant and their Employer Recognition Scheme Awards, ensuring our serving Armed Forces personnel, veterans and their connected families are advised, signposted and given the best service possible.

We host events including the Armed Forces Day and Merchant Navy Day. Remembrance Parades were held in partnership with local Rotary Clubs and other key organisations. Communities came together to remember and give thanks to those that served and those that continue to do so.

Opportunities are provided for Armed Forces personnel and their families to come together, including a fortnightly walk at Kingsmill Reservoir and the Military Community Network Group, Breakfast Club who meet monthly.



Age UK Veterans Walk at Kingsmill Reservoir

The official opening of Spectre Coffee Shop in Sutton-in-Ashfield took place in March 2023, led by Lieutenant Colonel Keith Spiers OBE TD and attended by Nottinghamshire Police Armed Forces Network and Ashfield District Council. Spectre Coffee provides a meeting place for the Armed Forces family with discounts for blue-light workers. The coffee shop has been set up by two local businessmen.



Spectre Coffee Shop Opening 2023

FEEDING ASHFIELD

The Feeding Ashfield Network continues to meet every other month. Attendees include volunteers from community groups working on the food agenda, education providers, social prescribers, and various guest speakers. Participating in this network has facilitated collaboration, enabling all involved to gain a better understanding of the services on offer within Ashfield along with any additional support that may be required.

The Feeding Ashfield webpage is designed to be used as a tool aiding both professionals and residents to find information they require around support available, where to find services and how to get involved.

Community growing was identified by network members as something that could be an asset to the local food agenda. Ashfield District Council communicated with all council owned allotment holders. Allotment holders have been linked up with nearby food banks, donating any surplus produce as and when they are able.

Feeding Ashfield worked with FoodCycle to agree a suitable location and promote a new opportunity in the district for a weekly social eating get together. The project launched in March 2023, and feeds up to 50 guests each week. The project is supported by FareShare and Ashfield based Charity without Borders, who ensure there is enough food to go round.



Weekly Social Eating at The Magdalene Centre

Feeding Ashfield and Feel Good Families have linked together to enable the sharing of recipes and cookery tips. Weekly posts are shared on behalf of local residents and organisations to encourage Ashfield to get cooking.

Our collective pledge

During the Ashfield Health and Wellbeing Partnership Annual General Meeting we ask partners to commit to pledges to Be Healthy, Be Happy. The collective pledge is:

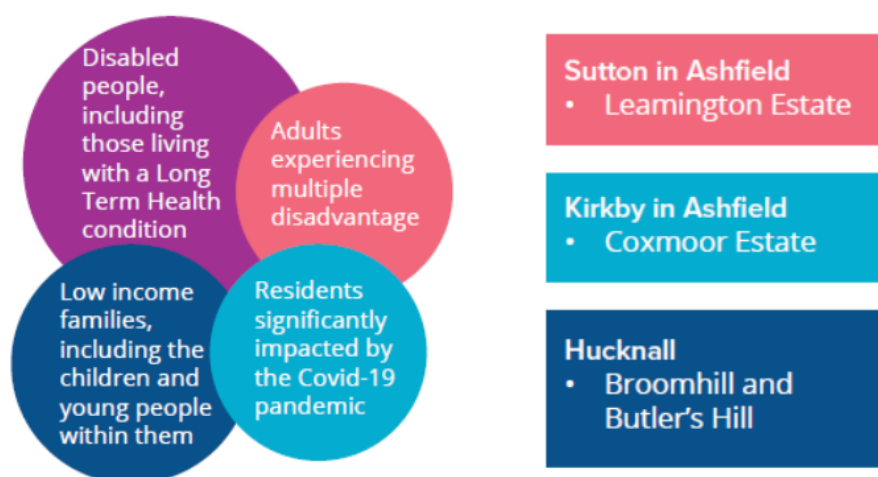
- To listen to the views of our communities
- To continue to build relationships.
- Explore how services can work together with the person at the centre.
- To communicate and promote the work of others.
- To build on the assets and strengths that exist in Ashfield.

Call to Action

The priorities for Be Healthy, Be Happy remain unchanged. They are:

- Best Start - Give every child and young person the best chance of maximising their potential.
- Living Well - Create healthy and sustainable places.
- Ageing Well - Everyone can access the right support to improve their health.
- Health Inequalities - Keep our communities safe and healthy.

The strategy identifies that delivery of these priorities will focus on priority places and population groups.



It is recognised by the partnership that there is much to do to support residents to be happy and healthy, with rising costs of living and increased levels of mental ill health. The partnership has made a commitment to ensure that the work in the coming year will reflect these societal changes.

The Ashfield Health and Wellbeing Partnership encourages you to:

- Align your strategies, plans and policies to the priorities within the strategy.
- Advocate the importance of reducing health inequalities.
- Strengthen your understanding of the issues that need to be addressed and consider the role you play within it.
- Work collaboratively and be part of the system.
- Share insight, ideas, solutions, and challenges.
- Make positive choices about your own behaviours.