

Local Strategic Partnership

Friday 11th September 2020

The challenges of the pandemic

Kathy O'Leary
Chief Executive

Response

Lockdown, March 2020

- All 367 staff working from home
- Emergency plans driven by Government and Local Resilience Forum activated, led by Director of Public Health
- Three new staff cells created at SDC:
 - Customer Contact
 - Community Response
 - Communications

Community Response

- Many vulnerable people in the pandemic
- Communities sprang into action
- Gloucestershire Community Help Hub set up
- SDC co-ordination of activity
- Community Resilience Fund set up
 - GCC / SDC match funding, £50,000 each
 - Grants totalling £49,664 given to 55 community groups so far

Other 'response' priorities

- Tackling Homelessness
 - 15 rough sleepers and sofa surfers accommodated under Covid-19 Emergency Accommodation Protocol
- Business Grant Distribution
 - Small Business and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Funds – payments totalling £25,535,000 made to 2,279 businesses
 - Discretionary Grants of £1,340,000 made to 135 businesses
- Local Outbreak Management Plan, led by Director of Public Health
 - Environmental Health activity: Risk assessments, inspections

Other response challenges

- Waste and recycling – Ubico service delivered as normal during the pandemic
- Increase in Anti Social Behaviour, Domestic Violence, noise complaints
- Running all services remotely
- Decision making and remote meetings

Recovery

Summer 2020, easing of lockdown

- Recover, Reset and Renew
 - Business and economy, market towns and rural vitality
 - Community resilience and wellbeing
 - Housing and homelessness
 - Climate Change and Environment
- SDC modernisation
 - Capitalising on progress made during the pandemic
 - Reshaping services, improving digital offer

The new normal?

Autumn 2020, response and recovery

- Ready to respond as infection rate rises, working with community groups
- Continuing recovery work
 - Leisure Centres open with reduced offer
 - Museum in the Park open by appointment
 - Staff back at Ebley Mill in ‘bubbles’ and on rotas
 - Ebley Mill Reception opening early October by appointment only, subject to Government guidance