

## **Lowestoft Rising – Briefing for Lowestoft Town Council**

**March 2020**

1. Lowestoft Rising was formed five and a half years ago by Suffolk County Council, Waveney District Council, Great Yarmouth and Waveney CCG, Suffolk Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner. These partners, along with Voluntary and Community Sector representation through Access Community Trust, sit on the Lowestoft Rising Sponsor Group which is supported by a network of officers from different organisations working in the town.
2. Lowestoft Rising was formed in order to drive a different way of working together as a public sector ‘family’, breaking down the boundaries between organisations in order to find a better way of delivering services to improve outcomes for the people of Lowestoft. We aim to make decisions collectively, make the best use of our combined resources and identify and remove the barriers to working together that could stop us from making a difference.
3. Lowestoft Rising has five areas of focus:
  - Mental Health and Wellbeing
  - Aspiration and Potential
  - Drug and Alcohol Services
  - Integration and Collaboration
  - Pride in Lowestoft – build on what makes Lowestoft great.
4. A sample of successes across the five themes includes the development of the Positive Mental Health Manifesto for Lowestoft, 300 people attending the trauma related mental health conference in 2018, our schools mentoring programme with over 100 trained mentors, the formation of the Cultural Education Partnership and development of the first Lowestoft Cultural Strategy, support for over 150 people through the multi-agency ‘Interventions’ process, the Thin Ice rough sleeper initiative, Solutions Social Prescribing across eight Lowestoft GP practices and support for festivals, including the Summer Festivals and First Light.
5. As well as leading work around the five priorities, Lowestoft Rising influences other key partnerships working in the town, including the newly formed Place Board and the Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership.
6. Lowestoft Rising works because of the long term commitment of its partners, including the Chief Executives of both the County and District Councils. It also works because it makes a difference – just over £400,000 of investment by the Lowestoft Rising partners across five and a half years has generated more than £3 million of funding for the town. This is a return rate of £7.50 for every pound invested (and we know that this is an underestimate).

7. East Suffolk Council leads three Place Based Initiatives – Lowestoft Rising, Leiston Together and Felixstowe Forward. This is the only PBI where the Town Council is not an active partner, which is a shame given the significant impact of Lowestoft Rising and what we know the Town Council could offer to the partnership in terms of knowledge, skills and commitment to the town.
8. In Leiston the Town Council contributes £4,000 and in Felixstowe the Town Council provides £20,000 to their respective partnerships. We believe that a reasonable funding request from Lowestoft Town Council for 2020/21 would be £10,000. Three of the current funding partners – SCC, ESC and CCG - have pledged £20,000 and the Police/PCC (now a combined contribution) have pledged £10,000 (we are awaiting confirmation regarding funding for beyond September 2020 from Suffolk Police/PCC).
9. A £10,000 investment would therefore represent a 12.5% contribution to the current total funding package for 2020/21.
10. At the meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020, we will present the work of Lowestoft Rising in more detail and answer any questions that Town Councillors may have about the work of the partnership and future opportunities.

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