

**Leisure and Health Portfolio
Councillor T A Cullen**

Report to Council – 15 October 2025

Communities

Following long vacancies the roles of Communities Officer Children and Young People and Equalities and Vulnerabilities have been replaced and both start work in the second half of September.

Children and Young People

In the first week as Children and Young Peoples Officer they have:

- Reached out and contacted other organisations to set up meetings to push forward activity.
- Collated a spreadsheet of Broxtowe Schools – reached out each one to try and gain a point of contact for all the schools, as well as start the conversation regarding the Youth Conference.
- Attended the Child Poverty meeting.
- Attended Stapleford Job Fair to network with organisations and engage them with the Children and Young Peoples Partnership..
- Signed the Borough Council up as a supporter for Anti-Bullying Week 2025 with The Anti-Bullying Alliance planning a fundraiser for anti-bullying week and promoting Odd Socks Day.
- Reached out to HR to investigate the possibility of setting up a volunteer programme for Young People.
- Engaged with Youth commission around youth attitudes towards the Police and how they feel crime and violence policing should improve moving forward.
- Attended Notts Hope Hack to gather information on youth attitudes and experience towards violence and knife crime in their lives and communities.
- Joined the project to deliver the Youth Conference to take this work forward. The Conference will focus on several areas of youth issues, particularly around Misinformation and negative Influencing on Social-Media, Mental Health and Community Connectedness, Violence Against Women and Girls and Bullying. Project conference will run in February 2026.

Carers Roadshows

Stapleford Carers Roadshow is being held on 14 October, 10am -1pm at Stapleford Care Centre.

Beeston Carers Roadshow is being held on 14 November, 10am – 1pm at Beeston Library.

Dementia

The Broxtowe Dementia Event was held at the British Legion Hall on 26 September. Around sixty people attended the event and discussed partnerships, moving into a care home and planning for the end of life.

Feedback forms stated:

1. The event was interesting 100%
2. The event was relevant to my needs 95%
3. It was a useful networking opportunity 98%
4. I gained new knowledge 99%
5. I had an opportunity to express my views 94%
6. I was able to hear about other people's experience 99%
7. I got answers to my questions 91%

Smoking in Pregnancy

Stop smoking support for pregnant women has started on Wednesday afternoons (by appointment) at Eastwood Citizens Advice offices delivered by Your Health Nottinghamshire.

International Older People's Day

A wellbeing event for those over fifty-five and disabled is being held at the Helpful Bureau on 1 October, 10am – 1pm.

Integrated Neighbourhood Teams

A new programme of work to develop Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INT) in Nottinghamshire is underway with meetings to design a Broxtowe INT beginning in Sept 2025.

INTs will deliver the new National NHS England neighbourhood health guidelines 2025/26 which outline a shift toward neighbourhood-based healthcare delivery focused on three main transitions:

- Hospital to community: Providing care closer to home
- Analogue to digital: Expanding digital infrastructure and solutions
- Treatment to prevention: Promoting early intervention and health literacy

Age-friendly Community

A request has been received from the South Notts Place Based Partnership Board to explore Age-friendly Community status for Eastwood.

The Board is seeking local political support to progress Age-friendly Community registration.

Further details and discussions to follow.

Current Performance

Liberty Leisure Limited (LLL) is currently performing well and at the end of Q1 was forecasting at budget overall. Income is slightly down although it has picked up in Q2, especially in membership income which is now at the highest level ever for Bramcote and Chilwell combined. The drop in income is offset by a reduction in expenditure which is predominantly achieved through careful management of salary budgets. With income increases and careful budget management LLL are hopeful improving on the 25/26 budget outturn of a £57.5k.

Stapleford Community Pavilion

The Stapleford Community Pavilion, that LLL will be operating on behalf of the Council, started with a soft opening in September with a wider offer from October. The facility which consists of two 3G football pitches, a café, early years provision, and multiple hireable spaces, is also the new home of Stapleford Town FC and the Steven Gerrard Academy.

UKactive Nomination

A member of LLL staff, Chloe Corden – Active Lifestyles Manager, has been nominated for the Physical Activity Hero award at the UKactive national fitness awards. This is great recognition of the work she and her team have done to provide physical activity options for people they would not ordinarily access these opportunities.

Events – Trophy Gala

LLL have been involved with a few events recently including attending the Decathlon Play Day to showcase the LLL offering and hosting the annual swimming trophy gala, where members of the swim school compete against club swimmers. This event was very well received, and we have had a number of positive comments from parents about how impressed they are that this is provided by the centre.

Event programme

The Council's summer event programme was attended by nearly 15,000 people at events including four play days, Friday18 in Beeston and the Green Festival, as well as new events such as Beeston Summer Fete and Friday18 in Kimberley.

The D.H. Lawrence Festival also ran over six weeks, featuring 21 events focused on all aspects of culture. Highlights included the D.H. Lawrence Music Festival, and the Heritage Open Days which received their best attendance to date at 170.

Unfortunately, the planned Proms in the Park event at Dovecote Lane Recreation Ground in Beeston had to be cancelled due to wet and windy conditions. Work is underway to reschedule the event and organise another Prom event in the north of the Borough, as well as outdoor theatre events.

Preparations are currently being made for Christmas Light Switch On events which will take place on the following dates. The event in Eastwood has been moved from a Tuesday evening to a weekend following feedback from residents to enable more families to attend.

- Beeston Christmas Lights Switch On - Saturday 15 November
- Eastwood Christmas Lights Switch On - Saturday 22 November
- Stapleford Christmas Lights Switch On - Saturday 29 November

Kimberley Christmas Lights Switch On is organised by Kimberley Town Council but the Borough Council will work with them to promote the event to residents.

A proposed programme for 2026/27 will be brought to Cabinet in December.

D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum

The D.H. Lawrence Birthplace Museum has been working on a number of digital projects recently to make learning about Lawrence more accessible.

This includes:

- The first digital exhibition showcasing the winners of the Children's Writing Competition through videos which bring the stories to life. These have been provide with both subtitles and audio to suit a range of audio visual needs.
- An Augmented Reality Trail has been launched, thanks to UKSPF funding. The immersive trail allows visitors to Eastwood to walk in Lawrence's footsteps and learn about his life. Through a phone or tablet, visitors can explore five locations to learn about significant events that shaped the town over the last 200 years, and its most famous son, D.H. Lawrence.
- A new walking trail, which provides a more interactive version of the old Blue Line Trail including videos from Lawrence experts, as well as an audio trail, also funded through the Shared Prosperity Fund.

CCity Project

A number of events have taken place over recent months including:

- Local musicians from Broxtowe visited Gutersloh, Germany to take part in a musical concert of the CCity partners.
- The Council hosted a CCity stage as part of the Oxjam Beeston event, which included performances from six musicians, two of whom came over from the CCity partner city of Grudziądz, Poland.
- Artwork from three Broxtowe artists has been displayed at an art exhibition of CCity partners in Gutersloh. The exhibition will travel around the different CCity partner countries, coming to Broxtowe in June to coincide with the CCity conference.
- The D.H. Lawrence Prize: Children's Writing Competition has been hailed as an example of best practice amongst the CCity partners and following its

success, writing competitions will take place in all the other cities in 2026, following a common theme.

- A digital history and custom exhibition which will highlight the social history of Broxtowe and will sit alongside similar exhibitions from each of the other cities.

Preparations are now underway for the 2026 CCity conference, which will be hosted in Broxtowe in June. The conference will bring cultural experts from each of the CCity partner cities together to further develop cultural projects and events for residents to enjoy, as well as provide an opportunity to showcase some of the fantastic cultural and heritage venues we have available in the Borough.

