



## North Somerset goes POPP!

Welcome to the first newsletter of the North Somerset POPP.

This is designed to give you an overview of the POPP developments in your local area and keeping you up to date as the project progresses.

June 07

### Let's start at the very beginning...

The Department of Health launched the scheme in 2005 to provide local authorities with the opportunity and money to be creative with service provision – to think outside the proverbial box! Round 1 bids were submitted and a number of successful authorities began their POPP in May 06. North Somerset Council and partners were invited to resubmit their POPP bid for the Round 2 projects and in December 2006 were announced as one of 19 successful authorities; securing nearly £1 million to develop services for older people in North Somerset.

The project officially began on 1 May 2007 although a lot of work has already taken place by partners involved in the scheme. It is set to last until March 2009.

The aims of POPP are to trial new ways of partnership working, focussing on prevention to deliver improved outcomes for older people.

### The five spurs

The project for North Somerset is made up of five spurs, with North Somerset Council working alongside various local partners to bring about positive, creative development of services. The spurs are:

#### 1. Age Concern

**Project:** The introduction of four community development workers and manager for Age Concern. The aim is to actively seek older people isolated and at risk, to promote engagement with services and improve quality of life. They will also provide opportunity to contribute to the development of services and community resources.



#### 2. Somerset Racial Equality Council

**Project:** Introduction of a community development worker for Somerset Racial Equality Council to actively engage members of North Somerset Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) population. Historically the take-up of services by members of the BME population has been poor, often leading to the need for complex crisis intervention where prevention might have been an option. SREC will improve the access to services and in consultation with older people from BME population and will advise on opportunities for further development of local services.



#### 3. Crossroads Caring for Carers

**Project:** The introduction of flexible services for older carers through North Somerset Crossroads Caring for Carers. Crossroads will assist older carers to access a wider range of services to meet their needs and alleviate carer strain. The emphasis is on personal choice with the aim to reduce the stresses on carers and avoiding the need for crisis input or admissions.



#### 4. Health and Social Care services

**Project:** The integration of working practices for health, mental health and social care staff. The aim will be to support staff to work in an integrated way to benefit older people. The emphasis will be on enabling effective working practices, information sharing and a clear way to access services. Ultimately it is hoped this will to reduce duplication and costs, provide the most appropriate and timely service for older people in need, avoid unnecessary distress and inappropriate admissions to hospital or care homes.



#### 5. Pavement repair

**Project:** The repair of key areas of pavement to reduce injuries and resulting associated costs and distress. It is hoped that savings can be reinvested to further repair; aiming for prevention rather than compensation.



## Older People

Throughout the project the aim is to keep contact with the views of older people. This will be instrumental in determining the direction and success of the project. Representation is currently achieved through the senior citizens forum. This will be developed throughout the project by community development workers, through the setting up of older people panels and from feedback sought by The Evaluation Trust.

## Evaluation

The Evaluation Trust has been employed to develop key methods for evaluating the progress and success of the project. They are proactively seeking out the views of older people accessing services, to inform their work.



## Progress so far

Age Concern has recruited 4 community development workers. Two are in post and two are currently awaiting start dates. They will be working in the social services locality offices and linking in with staff and services as necessary. SREC has recruited their community development worker and he started working on 29 May. Crossroads are developing details of the service to advise known carers of the opportunity. They are recruiting additional staff to assist with the POPP carers' service provision.

A cluster of incidents resulting in injuries and claims has been identified. These were associated with a piece of pavement in Weston near the Tesco supermarket. Work to address the pavement repair has already been completed.

## Launch of POPP Carers Project

The launch of POPP Carers Project is to take place in Carers Week (11-15 June). Further information about the 'menu' of services will be available during Carers' Day on Thursday 14 June at Crossroads. Rest assured it won't all be a la carte – Crossroads will work with the carer to determine the support needed and then assist to arrange the required services.

The ethos of the POPP is keeping older people central to the development of service provision. POPP hopes to demonstrate the benefits of partnership working, by enabling independence and quality of life for older people through timely access to services they consider appropriate.



**Want to know more? Please contact us.**

### Key Contacts:

**Project Manager** Sarah Shaw                      **01275 888 650**  
Adult Social Services and Housing,  
North Somerset Council, Room 209 Town Hall,  
Weston-super-Mare, Somerset BS23 1ZY.  
Email: [POPP@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:POPP@n-somerset.gov.uk)

**Age Concern**  
Karen Philpott    **01934 614 765**

**Crossroads**  
Christine Holland    **01934 411 852**

**Health and Social Care - Integration of services**  
**North Somerset Council**  
Paul Overton    **01934 529 600**

**North Somerset Primary Care Trust**  
Eileen Raynes-White    **01275 529 523**

**Avon and Wiltshire Partnership Trust**  
Paul Hughes    **01934 836 461**

**SREC**  
Quentin Isaac    **01934 414 455**

**Highways**  
Streets and Open Spaces    **01934 888 802**

### Key websites

[www.n-somerset.gov.uk/POPP](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/POPP)  
[www.dh.gov.uk](http://www.dh.gov.uk)  
[www.ageconcernsomerset.org.uk](http://www.ageconcernsomerset.org.uk)  
[www.srec.org.uk](http://www.srec.org.uk)  
[www.nscrossroads.org.uk](http://www.nscrossroads.org.uk)  
[www.northsomerset.nhs.uk](http://www.northsomerset.nhs.uk)  
[www.awp.nhs.uk](http://www.awp.nhs.uk)