

### Districtwide Community Updates

- The Policy & Strategy team have drafted the criteria for the Community Investment Fund with support from the Community Partnerships team. Looking to launch the fund at the beginning of September.
- Coordinating voluntary support response to Asylum Seekers based in North Herts.
- The first meeting of the Wellbeing networking group was held on July 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Following the 'All About Us' North Herts Community conference in March and having reviewed feedback, there are three workshops for groups across North Herts on the theme of Volunteering, Funding, and Collaboration & Partnerships. Further information and booking can be found through these links:  
[Volunteering Workshop Tickets, Thu 21 Sep 2023 at 17:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Collaboration Workshop Tickets, Tue 26 Sep 2023 at 17:00 | Eventbrite](#)  
[Funding Workshop Tickets, Wed 27 Sep 2023 at 17:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- Commencing planning of the North Herts Heroes awards, which will be launched in November.
- Working in partnership with Rotary Club of Hitchin Tilehouse on the Youth Showcase event which will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> September.
- Supporting the [Samarivans](#) charity art project.
- Co-ordinating various local and district wide Network Groups including Youth Action, Food Provision, Arts and Culture and Green and Growing Group.
- Continuing to facilitate NHC Councillors' Community Surgeries.
- Sharing and disseminating information on social media and to mailing lists, keeping in touch with the community, voluntary, statutory and non-statutory agencies.

### Area Community Updates

- Following the Home Office decision to use Needham House in Wymondley to house Asylum Seekers, Officers contacted local community, faith groups and the Parish Councils to set up a community support network to assist Asylum seekers.
- At the time of writing this report, there have been three online network meetings which has helped local groups to connect and support the residents, through donating clothes and providing activities.
- Since the last Area Forum meeting, the funding which was recommended for Ickleford Parish Council has been withdrawn. This is because the project had already been paid for and as per the Council's grants criteria, the Council is unable to fund retrospectively [Community grants | North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](#).