



## Dawn Eckhart, DCT Project Manager

Building capacity and resilience in your community



Devon & Cornwall Police



# The drivers behind the Community Unity pilot project

The Community Unity pilot project was designed to support the Citizens in Policing Programme. In particular, the overarching strategic theme of “Safe, Resilient & Connected Communities”

The Police and Crime Commissioner had a stated intent for the service to be well connected to communities, with a particular focus on those who are most vulnerable due to ethnicity, age, disability, rural or social isolation

Community Unity was a pilot project aimed at enabling this

connectivity

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# Community Unity – Why DCT?

Devon Communities Together have an excellent track record in community engagement across Devon, in particular we have:

- A deep rural reach established through over 50 years' of project activities across Devon.
- A broad specialist skills portfolio and the commitment of our experienced Community Engagement Teams.
- Significant involvement in delivering Community and Neighbourhood Plans for numerous Devon parishes.
- Been a delivery partner for the Devon Community Resilience Board for Community Emergency Plans.

...and much more!



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# The Aims of Community Unity

- To help build the capacity of and connectivity within each community: Between the local groups, services, volunteers and residents in order to grow their resilience, self-reliance and impact
- To raise awareness of potentially vulnerable or isolated sectors of each community and to support initiatives that seek to reduce negative impacts of these issues
- To raise awareness of Devon & Cornwall Police's "Citizens in Policing" programme and its volunteering opportunities.



# Project Overview – Target Localities

**When:** March 2017 – November 2018

**Where:** Three distinct communities within northern Devon:

## Urban – South Molton

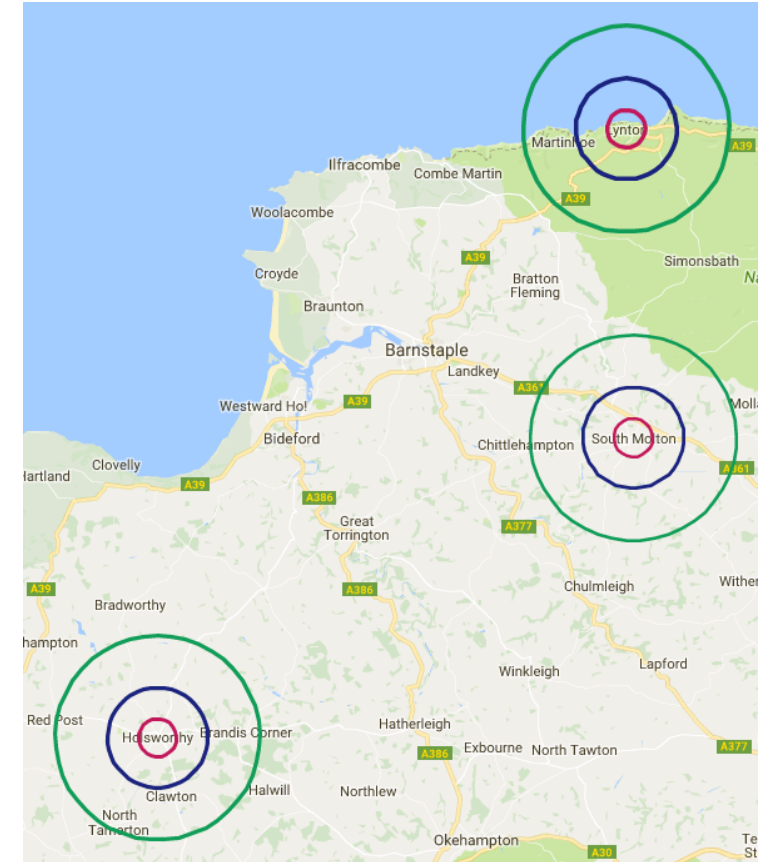
- A thriving, growing Devon market town.
- Well-connected, adjacent to A361.

## Rural – Holsworthy

- A traditional market town
- Rural location, geographically remote.

## Coastal – Lynton and Lynmouth

- Tight knit community, geographically remote.
- Tourism is the key to socio-economic well being.



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# Delivery Plan

- Awareness raising and invitation to participate
- Ideas Factory Events
- Asset Mapping
- Training needs Assessment
- Connector Events
- Local training programmes
- Know Your Neighbour campaign
- Lets Do It fund awards
- Bespoke mentoring for local groups





# Connector Events: Community Group Catwalk



Tell us about the work of your group



What support does your group provide to vulnerable or hard to reach people, to build resilience?



What skills and resources can your groups share with your community?



What help are you looking for?



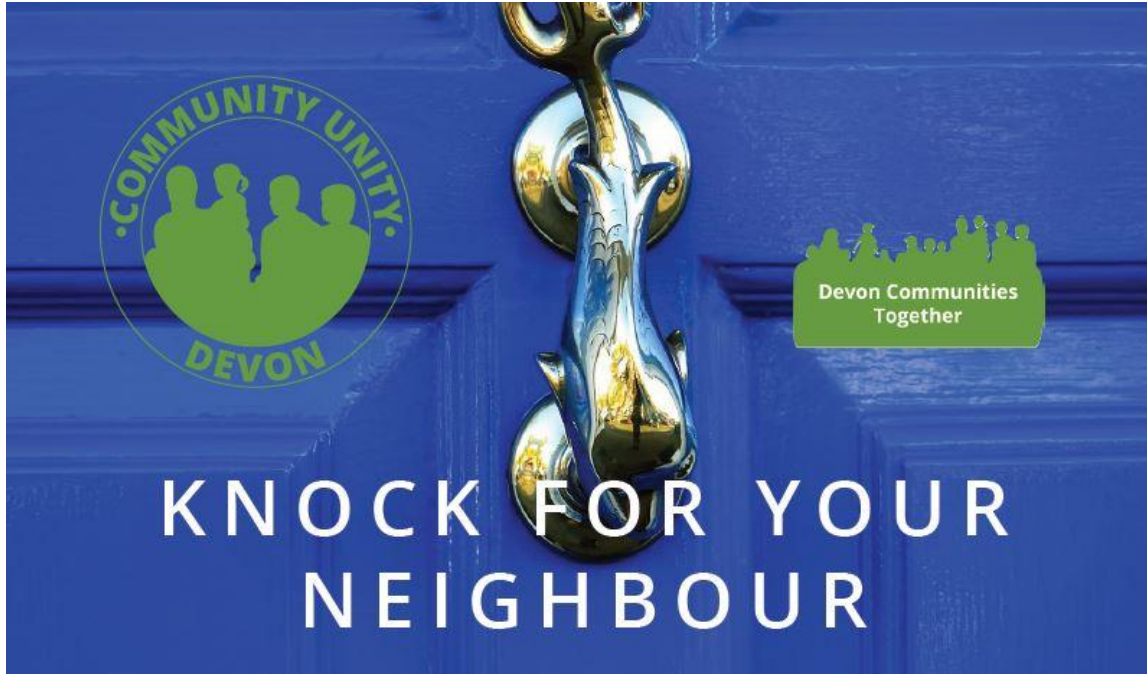


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# Know Your Neighbour Campaign



73% of us don't know our neighbours names



There are an estimated 1.2 million people in the UK who have "chronic" loneliness



Awareness raising campaign



Postcards to encourage people to introduce themselves to their neighbours offering help



Sign-posting information



# Sharing skills, building confidence in the volunteer work-force



Mental Health Awareness



1<sup>st</sup> Aid



Recruiting & Keeping Volunteers



Be Safe On-line



Funding Your Community Projects



# Lets Do It! Awards

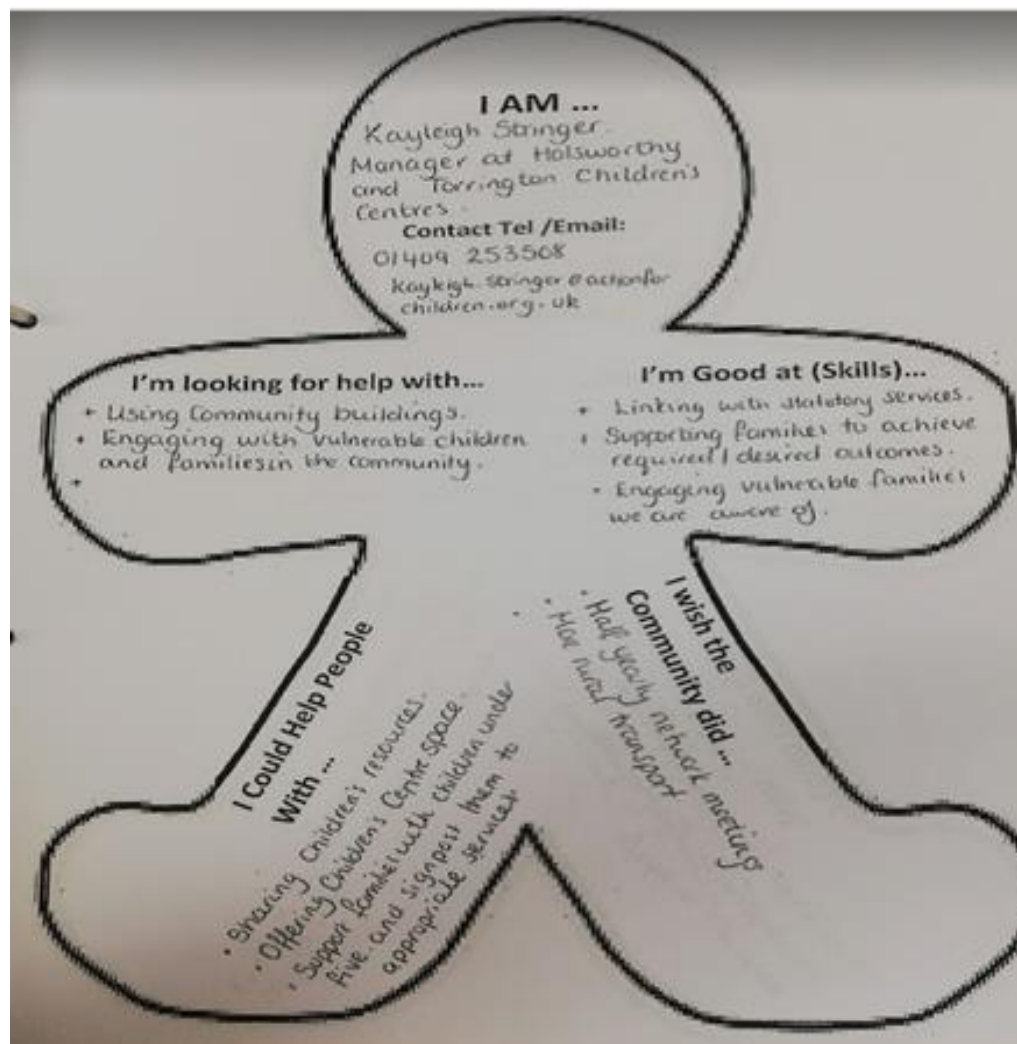


“Light Touch” grant scheme giving awards of up to £500

Lets Do It awards aimed to support community led initiatives to:

- Tackle loneliness and social isolation
- Build the confidence & capacity of local volunteers
- Create inter-generational opportunities





# Outputs and Impact?

- **Three Asset Maps created**
- **Over 60 local people representing around 40 local community groups participated in events**
- **Over 140 local people attended training**
- **Eight local initiatives received investment from the Lets Do It fund**
- **Three community market stalls and over 600 promotional flyers distributed as part of the KYN campaign**





***“I did manage to get involved with the volunteering scheme, as a result of the meeting in Lynton, and was able to fill in for some duties at the Lyn and Exmoor Museum.”***

***“A quick word of thanks to Louise and Harry for the funding course in Holsworthy last week, which was very useful, in helping us to sharpen up our skills for future applications, in connection with our plan for a new permanent community hall.”***



*“The development of a Community Asset Map is another very useful initiative created by this project which I hope will be developed further to include a system to share/loan physical assets as well as skills resources within the community.”*

Mike Sutton

Chair, Holsworthy Bowling Club



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# The Community Unity pilot project

**THANK YOU FOR LISTENING**

**ANY QUESTIONS?**



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