

M&DCVS UPDATE



Maldon and District CVS has been very busy over the past year taking the administrative lead on the Maldon District Coronavirus response team. In March 2020 the charity was effectively repurposed to be a central point for the community to contact for help. In the first lockdown, in partnership with a range of organisations, we supported over 1,000 local residents with access to essential supplies such as food and medication. The response team undertook safe and well checks with people who had been assessed as clinically vulnerable or had contacted us for support. We made referrals to Essex Befriends for people who needed someone to talk to and worked with Churches Together in Maldon to offer chaplaincy and listening to people who were struggling with their feelings. We were able to support people whose circumstances had changed with referrals to organisations such as the CAB and the Maldon Family hub as appropriate. Over 300 local people came forward to join the community response team and complementing them were mutual aid groups and teams of community volunteers helping their neighbours.

Our support continued over the following two lockdowns as we also moved into supporting people to feel comfortable going out and accessing services. We ran a risk management workshop for our members, opened up a COVID Secure safe space coffee morning for the community, offered community based mental health and created online meet ups.

Maldon and District CVS has been proud to be part of the partnership and community that has stepped up to help the disadvantaged in our communities over the past year and would like to thank everyone who has been involved.

As we are hopefully nearing the end of the third (and final?) wave and there is a central “roadmap” for reopening services we are also looking at our own activities and considering how we can best support the community. Overleaf lays out some of our plans, which are of course subject to change. Some of our projects and services have been closed or reduced for nearly a year and we are keen to reconnect with our volunteers, users and partners to ensure that you are all informed with our plans and able to get involved in a way that is right for you.

If you would like to discuss anything in this update or wider community needs please contact M&DCVS Director, Sarah Troop, on 01621 732251 or sarah@maldoncv.org.uk

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NOW

- Ongoing COVID response supporting people with essential supplies
- Weekly safe social space for people to meet
- Support for people to complete their digital Census
- Digital lifeline project in partnership with moat foundation and Maldon Pioneers
- Emergency response through the community storage container
- Volunteer support to vaccination centres

END OF MARCH

- Group walks for wellbeing

THROUGHOUT MAY

- Resilience workshops for the community
- Community Chinese exercise
- Learning disability fitness sessions
- Playing out street play schemes
- CVS Meeting space available

INTO JUNE

- Harbour project
- Tuesday club lunch clubs
- Community weight management

IN DEVELOPMENT

- Food poverty and hardship support review
- Community thank you event
- Dementia friendly gardening project

ONGOING SERVICES

Sector funding advice, information services and ebulletins, Maldon Dementia Action Alliance, DBS checking service, sector governance advice, Volunteer Centre services, one to one community engagement support, Essex Shed Network, Maldon District Community forum,