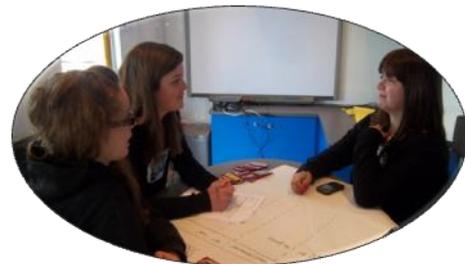


# CANVEY'S Big Local £1 MILLION



## Area Profile



## Our Vision

*Our vision is to build on the community spirit which exists on Canvey to create an inclusive and tolerant society where individuals and groups can work towards making the area a place that everyone can be proud to call home.*



Local Trust | Big Local



# Introduction

Residents from the Canvey's Big Local £1Million area have been supported by Castle Point Association of Voluntary Services (CAVS) to have their say on the priorities which the community would like to see addressed. Canvey Island as a whole has a reputation for its good level of community spirit and having an area awarded £1 million of Big Local funding provides residents with a springboard to put innovative community projects into action.

## What residents have said about the community

*"I would like the money to be spent on shelters so that teenagers can 'hang out' with their friends. The shelters and teen cafe at Waterside are really great."*  
Cornelius Vermuyden pupil.

*"The park / lake / dyke are such dreary places to go in the winter, especially without trees or flowers. It would be great to spend some of the money on making it a nicer area for everyone, the young as well as the elderly".*  
Mrs P, South Waters

*"I am fed up with the antisocial behaviour from certain groups of young people, riding their mini motorbikes dangerously through the park and congregating around the estates and outside shops and houses".*  
Mrs S, Lawrence Homes Estate

*"We need an area / wonderful play park for children of all ages to play . They shouldn't be indoors all the time. Make the play areas parent friendly with benches and picnic areas".*  
Parent at 4C's Children's Centre

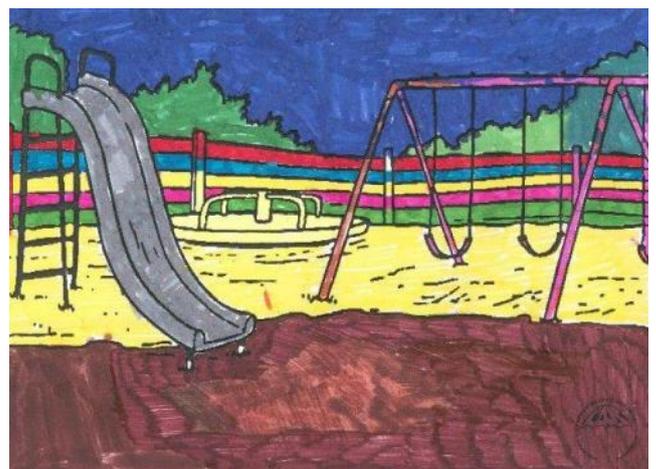
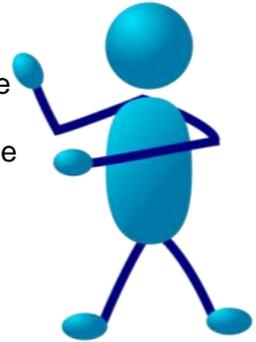
## The story so far...

The project, originally named 'Big Local - East of Link Road, Canvey' was announced as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of Big Local funding in February 2012. Now known as 'Canvey's Big Local £1Million' the project has been supported by CAVS, residents and other local partners to ensure that as many people as possible living in the area have had the opportunity to engage in identifying the priority areas of work which the funding could support. CAVS has worked with a

steering group of residents to organise various activities and promoted the scheme widely within local publications and on the radio.

Big local promotional activities have included:

- BOPH Summer Fete September 2012
- St Nicholas Church Summer Fete September 2012
- Cream Tea at Sweet Briars Lodge October 2012
- 'Name That Area' October 2012
- Castle Point Youth Council October 2012
- Christmas Lights Switch-on November 2012
- Canvey Island Library December 2012
- Parents Consultation Afternoon December 2012
- Canvey's Big Local £1 Million £100 Prize Draw
- Age Concern January 2013
- LSP Event, Paddocks January 2013
- Commemorating The Canvey Floods, St Nicholas Church Jan/Feb 2013
- Northwick Park School Colouring and Drawing Competition January/February 2013
- Family Fun Day in February 2013
- 4C's Children's Centre March 2013
- CAVS Community Breakfast March 2013
- Cornelius Vermuyden School – The £25 Challenge April / May 2013



Colouring competition winning picture by Phoebe from Northwick Park Primary School

*"Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity." General George S . Patton*

## How the community currently looks

Figures from [www.essexinsight.org.uk](http://www.essexinsight.org.uk)

Canvey's Big Local £1Million area is to the western side of Canvey Island comprising of some super outputs areas found within Winter Gardens, Central and West Wards. The population of Canvey's Big Local £1Million area is 6908<sup>1</sup> with 1606<sup>1</sup> residents being aged 15 or under and 1003<sup>1</sup> aged 65+. The population is predominantly white British living in a mix of privately owned homes, social housing and privately rented accommodation.

The area does suffer from some levels of deprivation with approximately 38%<sup>2</sup> of children under 16 being classed as 'in poverty' compared to 18%<sup>2</sup> on average for both Castle Point and Essex and 5.9%<sup>3</sup> of households within the area deemed to be in fuel poverty.

Most residents would consider themselves to be in 'good health' but 23%<sup>4</sup> felt they were only in 'fairly good health' and 10%<sup>4</sup> said they were 'not in good health'.

<sup>1</sup> Census, 2011

<sup>2</sup> HM Revenue and Customs, 2009

<sup>3</sup> Centre for Sustainable Energy, 2007

<sup>4</sup> Office of National Statistics, 2001

## Levels of Crime and Anti-social Behaviour

Figures from [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

Residents have reported that a key issue for them is crime and antisocial behaviour. For the year April 2012 – March 2013 a total of 680 reports were made to Essex Police with almost 40% of these being anti-social behaviour. This equates to 97 crimes per 1000 population compared to a Castle Point & Rochford average of 36 crimes per 1000 population. A Neighbourhood Watch scheme operates in Castle Point but relies upon residents to volunteer in their local area.

## The physical area

The community is served by a primary and secondary school directly in the Canvey's Big Local £1Million area. The secondary school has recently seen major investment through the Building Schools for the Future programme. Children

and young people also travel out of the Canvey's Big Local £1Million area to other schools nearby. There are some small businesses within the area. Open spaces are limited and tend to be surrounded by residential housing. The most significant area of open space is from the end of the lake by Denham Road up to Link Road.

## What is already available in the area?

Canvey's Big Local £1Million area has a number of local facilities delivered within its boundaries from either a fixed facility or via outreach services. These include:

- Children's Centres
- Education
- Churches
- Canvey Island Youth Project
- Sheltered Accommodation
- Health Centre
- Volunteer Centre (outreach)
- Canvey Schools Partnership (through schools)
- Youth Service (outreach)
- Small local shops including convenience grocery stores
- Good local bus routes with regular buses to the train station

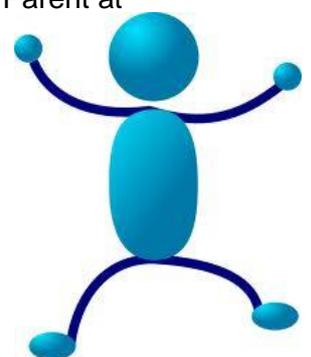
Residents also access a wide variety of services and facilities outside of the Canvey's Big Local £1Million area which are only a short distance away. These include:

- Senior citizens clubs e.g. Age Concern Canvey, CISCA, No. 2 OAP club and WRVS
- Skatepark
- Teen Cafe
- Sports facilities e.g. Waterside Farm Leisure Centre, Yacht Club, Football Club and Cricket Club
- Large supermarkets

## What residents like about the area

*"My new school is fantastic"* Pupil at Cornelius  
*"Most people know each other and are kind"* Resident, Second Avenue.

*"Little Lions Children's Centre is lovely place for my son to meet new friends"* Parent at Little Lions Children's Centre



*"Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome." Samuel Johnson*

## Key areas for service delivery as part of the project

Residents met with key local partners at an event in May 2013 to look at key findings of the initial resident consultation activities undertaken by CAVS and to inform how the scheme develops in the coming months. It was agreed that priority areas of work should be:

### 1. Getting people involved

Communicate with residents and encourage involvement across all demographics  
Communicate with key agencies who can support residents in bringing ideas to fruition.

### 2. Developing our infrastructure

Upskill residents on the Partnership to be confident in undertaking their role  
Support residents to volunteer  
Establish effective partnerships with local agencies

### 3. Develop activities which address the concerns of residents

Initial consultation with residents show their main concerns lie around:

- Activities and places to go for children and young people
- Reducing anti-social behaviour and levels of crime
- Improving the look and feel of the area
- Continue to review the focus of activity to adapt as priority areas of work change

## Bringing people together – Canvey's Big Local £1Million Partnership

The partnership has been borne out of some enthusiastic local residents who are keen to make the most of the Big Local opportunity and local agencies who deliver services which can help the project achieve its aims. Residents will always be in the majority on the partnership and other partners making up than no more than 49%.

Initially Canvey's Big Local £1Million partner agencies have been identified as:

- Castle Point Association of Voluntary Services
- Castle Point Borough Council
- Essex Youth Service

- Castle Point Borough Council
- Essex Police
- Canvey Island Town Council
- Groundwork

It is fully expected that partner agencies will change over time as will the residents who are involved with Canvey's Big Local £1Million Partnership.

## The £25 Challenge

It doesn't take a lot to enhance the local area as proven by pupils of Cornelius Vermuyden School. Given just £25 to spend on making an improvement to the community pupils identified a number ways they could make a difference.

These included:

- Running a fun activity for children whose families were experiencing financial hardship
- Providing an afternoon tea for older people
- Organising a litter pick and tidying up the area
- Buying plants and sprucing up a community garden

It just takes a commitment of time and energy.

# What could you do?



## Want to Know More?

Castle Point Association of Voluntary Services would be more than happy to discuss Canvey's Big Local £1Million in more detail with any interested parties.

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*“You're happiest while you're making the greatest contribution.” Robert F. Kennedy*