

Hi All,

I would like to send a brief update on CCS (Community Council for Somerset) and what we have to offer.

Very little has changed from last year. I am still covering Glastonbury, Wells and the surrounding villages as Village agent.

For those of you that don’t know here is a brief outline of CCS

**What do we do?**

CCS (Community Council for Somerset) is a leading local charity that started in 1926 and works in the heart of Somerset’s communities to inspire and enable positive change.

Through our wide network of passionate local experts and our diverse projects, consultancy and funding, we bring the right people and services together to improve the lives of individuals, building community capacity and support amongst emerging and existing enterprises right across the county – helping Somerset to thrive.

We receive funding direct from County as well as putting in for various large charity grants such as the Lottery. We also ask for our own smaller pots of funding from local companies that we can use in our own areas. For example, we have a local giving page for Mendip agents:

https://localgiving.org/charity/somersetcrisisfund/project/mendipcrisisfund/

This local funding helps us get essential items for the people most in need in our community such as white goods.

**Our Agents**

We have had a slight change with agents across the county. We no longer have the cancer agents as their funding has now run out, however we do still have

**Homefirst agents** who are based in hospitals around the county and who assist with hospital discharges.

**Community agents** who work along side Adult social care and assist with local community solutions. They can not be contacted directly and only take their referrals from Adult social care.

**Village agents** who work within the community and can take a referral from anyone.

**High intensity user agents** who work along side the GP’s and ambulance service to help people who call the emergency services or GP on a regular basis.

**Talking cafes**

A number of talking cafes across the county have now started back up with face to face meetings, we are also still running the talking cafes live on facebook and youtube once a week on a Wednesday at 1pm.

Those of you that have a GP practice in Mendip may be aware of Health connections who work out of the GP surgeries they now also have a social prescribing link worker role attached to them and also run the talking cafes within Mendip.

As always please feel free to get in contact if you have any questions or know of anyone who might need some extra support. My contact details are

Bella Lapwood

Bella@somersetrcc.org.uk

07494883541

Please note if you wish to refer another person they must have given consent for the referral to our service. Referrals can be made direct to me via telephone or email or alternatively via our online referral form on our website somersetagents.org/agent-call-back/ or by calling the main phone line on 01823 331222.

Many Thanks