

Resilient Communities

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Cllr G Perry - Community, leisure and culture
Cllr A Andrew - Regeneration
Cllr C Towe - Education and Skills
Cllr TS Wilson - Children's
Cllr R Martin - Adult Social Care
Cllr M Longhi - Health and wellbeing

Executive Summary:

Resilient Communities is an approach that focuses on the assets of the population, and is a citizen led way of improving our quality of life. In other words people know what best meets their needs and how to work together to create solutions to local issues. These may be anti-social behaviour, fly tipping, activities for young people, or enabling older people to stay connected to their peers.

The new model of Resilient Communities was agreed by Cabinet on 23 October 2019 and has four components:

- Enabling people to have personal responsibility;
- Community led solutions;
- Integrated services for the delivery of support to communities;
- Integrated enforcement.

This report requests that the Scrutiny Overview Committee note the new Resilient Communities model and the associated timelines for delivery.

Reason for scrutiny:

To provide an overview of the new approach to developing and supporting Resilient Communities and the timescales for delivery as requested by committee.

Recommendations:

The committee is recommended that it notes the new model to deliver Resilient Communities and the associated delivery timeline.

Background papers:

'Resilient Communities' Cabinet Report - 23 October 2019

Resource and legal considerations:

This report supports the statutory community safety, anti-social behaviour and licensing regulations. Further legal implications of having shared powers once agreed with the Police will be managed through the WPP board and Cabinet as appropriate.

Resilient Communities will impact on the following:

- Citizens will take the lead for the improving their quality of life. It helps people take ownership of their communities by facilitating their own solutions.
- Budget reduction within the Council.
- Stimulate further collaborative approach to delivery with partners.
- Contribute to the service redesign across the Council.

Council Corporate Plan Priorities:

The new Resilient Communities model supports the following Corporate Plan priorities.

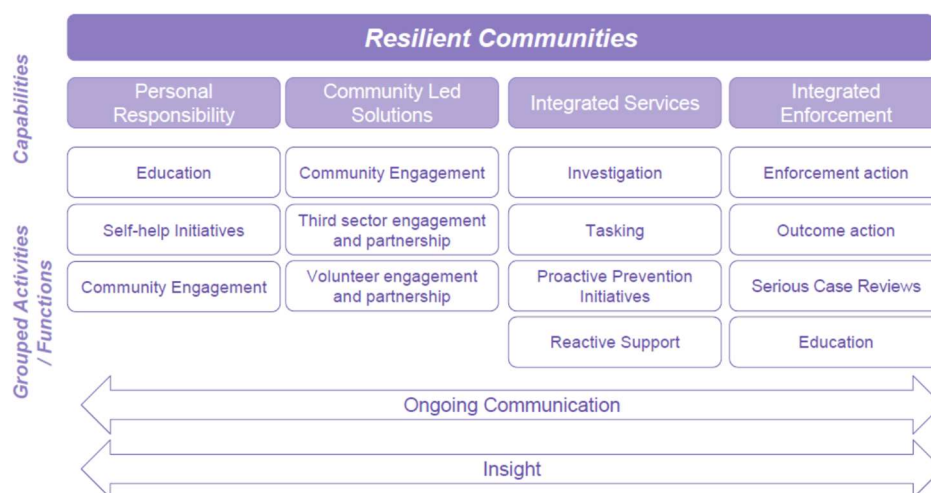
- **People** - have increased independence, improved health and can positively contribute to their communities.
- **Internal Focus** - All council services are efficient and effective
- **Children** - have the best possible start and are safe from harm, happy, healthy and learning well.
- **Communities** - are prospering and resilient with all housing needs met in safe and healthy places that build a strong sense of belonging and cohesion.

Citizen impact:

The new model of Resilient Communities brings the Council closer to the people of Walsall. It helps people take ownership of their communities by facilitating their own solutions through:

1. **Personal responsibility:** self-help initiatives, education and training, proactive prevention initiatives and community engagement and support.
2. **Community led solutions;** third sector and volunteer engagement and partnerships.
3. **Integrated services:** investigations, tasking, reactive support
4. **Integrated enforcement:** enforcement or outcome action, serious case reviews and education

The diagram below shows how key the activities and functions of the Resilient Communities Model will be delivered:



Community groups and associations as part of the resilient Communities model would be supported by infrastructure grant by the council and will largely support community-led solutions by taking ownership and delivery of interventions in specific communities. Additionally working with communities to take personal responsibility by having, effective communication with communities via multiple channels (face to face; social media; using local assets) to share information, for example: how to report issues; where to find community-based support; activities in your area and how to keep safe.

The below table (table 1) indicates the indicative timescales for transformation from "what is" to "to be". Key mile stones and governance will be overseen by the Walsall Proud Programme Board.

Table 1. High-level timeline.

Activity	Timeline
Service and partner further engagement in Design	November- December 2019
Further partner engagement on new operating model	January – February 2019
Service redesigns and detailed business case completed	February 2020
All service transition plans completed and a decision to progress received for implementation	March 2020

Environmental impact:

The Resilience model will have a positive impact on the environment through supporting the reduction of crime and disorder i.e. litter fines, detaining people, stopping vehicles and public nuisance and training opportunities.

Performance management:

There are a wide range of benefits within the new model and way of working which have been tested. These include reduction in enforcements required, efficiencies in processes of licensing, reductions in incidents of domestic abuse (2-5% modelled) and subsequent follow up, ASB reduction in incidents providing wider impacts in the health sector in the reduction of illicit tobacco. Further analysis is currently being undertaken to ascertain further benefits.

Reducing inequalities:

Crime levels are linked with poverty, social exclusion, alcohol and drug misuse and mental health issues. A Resilient Communities model can support the reduction of these inequalities.

Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken as the model is developed.

Consultation:

There has been engagement with staff who are involved with the relevant council services and partners in the Safer Walsall Partnership, as well as the CVS. This will continue as part of the implementation of the model and any organisational change.

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