

# **NORTH WALSALL AREA PANEL**

## **Area Manager's Report**

**5 July 2016**

1. Purpose of the Report
  - 1.1 This report seeks to inform Elected Members for the North Walsall Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within the local area.
  - 1.2 North Walsall has a number of key priorities which have been identified through work with partner agencies, Walsall Intelligence Network and the local community.
  - 1.3 The strategic priorities are:
    - Safer Walsall: Creating safe, sustainable and inclusive communities
    - Children and Young People: Improving safeguarding, learning and life chances for children and young people
    - Business and Jobs: Supporting businesses to thrive and supporting local people in to work
    - Health and Well-Being: Improving health, including well-being and independence for older people
  - 1.4 There are monthly Non Confidential Tasking & Co-ordination (Partner) Meetings that occur in North Walsall. The meetings provide the opportunity for partner agencies to come together and share ideas, information and co-ordinate strategy based on the Walsall Plan.

The partners include: Community Protection, Youth Support Services, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service, residents, Ward Councillors, Reedswood Park Retailers, Stephenson Square Retailers, Walsall Housing Group (WHG), Caldmoreaccord Housing, Walsall Association of Tenant Management Organisations, West Midlands Probation Service, Walsall Intelligence Network, Environmental Health, Beechdale Community Housing, Bloxwich Academy, Frank F Harrison Community Association, Bloxwich Community Partnership, St Aiden's Care Team, North Walsall Area Partnership, Walsall Adult Community College (WACC), Walsall College, Economic Regeneration Team, Work on the Horizons, Public Health, Lifestyles Team, Forest Arts Centre, Blakenall Community Centre (BCC), Ryecroft Hub, Walsall Link Line, Green Lane Baptist Church & Community Payback.
  - 1.5 A facebook page has now been set up to promote all community activity happening in North Walsall called Let's do it in North Walsall.

## **2. Safer Walsall: Creating safe, sustainable and inclusive communities**

- 2.1 The police continue to do regular high visibility patrols in hot grid areas where a 15 minute patrol is done every three hours.
- 2.2 The Birchills and Leamore Neighbourhood Team have made some arrests regarding drug misuse in Leamore Lane. Their priorities include drug activity and cars driving at speed and conducting high speed manoeuvres.
- 2.3 On 1 June the Walsall's first Public Space Protection Order will come into force on the Beechdale Estate and will be in effect for three years. The order has the following conditions:
  - 1. It is prohibited in a public place for any person to engage in activity which has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, including but not limited to any activity capable of causing nuisance or annoyance, verbal abuse, damage to property including graffiti or vandalism, littering, drug or alcohol related activity capable of causing nuisance or annoyance, violence or threats of violence.
  - 2. It is prohibited in a public place for any person to cause nuisance, annoyance, alarm or distress involving any vehicle including but not limited to cars, motorbikes, mini motos, push bikes, scooters and skateboards.
  - 3. It is prohibited in a public place for any person to cause nuisance or annoyance by playing any ball game including but not limited to those played in the street or car parks. Persons who breach the order could be liable for a considerable fine.
- 2.4 The Blakenall Neighbourhood Team are working to combat an increase in taxis and other vehicles being targeted with stones.
- 2.5 The Blakenall Neighbourhood Team have increased patrols around Valley Road due to reports of youths gathering and causing a general nuisance. There is a whg camera deployed to this location which can monitor and record incidents of anti-social behaviour. The team are working with partners to address the issue and highlight positive activities available in the area.
- 2.6 The Blakenall Neighbourhood Team are working with pub managers and licence holders to identify bar trouble makers during Euro 2016 and beyond.
- 2.7 Bloxwich Neighbourhood Team have seen a fall in the number of off road bikes reported around King George V, Vernon Way and along the canal tow paths but this remains a priority patrol area for both uniformed and non-uniformed officers.
- 2.8 North Walsall police are working closely with Community Protection, Youth Offending Services and local commissioned providers to manage young people on Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. The coordinated approach has seen a reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour.

- 2.9 A task and finish group has been set up to address concerns raised in and around Birchills. These include anti-social behaviour along the canals, rubbish, drug dealing and speeding cars. We are also working with Canal and River Trust and Birchills C of E school to see if we can make more use of the canal in a safe and educational way.
- 2.10 A number of police surgeries, residents' meetings and neighbourhood watch meetings take place across North Walsall.

Meeting	Date	Time	Where
Agenda 21 (Birchills/Leamore residents)	4 July	7.30	Bentley Moor Social Club
Blakenall Residents Meeting	5 July	6.30-8.30	Ryecroft Hub
Mossley Residents meeting	6 July	7.00	Mattesley Court

- 2.11 Cameras are deployed in different locations across North Walsall to tackle fly-tipping, anti-social behaviour and to assist with the detection of criminal activities. Covert cameras are also utilised. The distributions of cameras are decided at the monthly Confidential Partnership Tasking & Coordination Meeting.

Reference	Installed at	Installing Agency	Purpose	Objective
ND1/ND2 Now combined to make one working camera	Leamore Lane	Neighbourhood Management	To reduce crime & ASB and offer reassurance	To identify offenders to enable appropriate action to be taken
ND7	Forest Avenue	Neighbourhood Management	To reduce criminal activity and anti-social behaviour	To identify offenders and enable appropriate action to be taken.
ND8 Not panning due to go	Bloxwich Road	Neighbourhood Management	To reduce criminal activity and anti-social	To identify offenders and enable appropriate

in for repair			behaviour	action to be taken.
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- 2.12 West Midlands Fire Service, Area Partnerships and the Sure Start Centres have done an awareness campaign around car seat safety. Information included identifying whether a child still needed a seat legally. We are progressing this further by installing height charts at each Sure Start Centre so parents can easily identify whether their child needs a car seat.
- 2.13 Community Payback have worked with Area Partnerships to litter pick along the Ash Track, from Cavendish Road to Reedswood Park. This will be part of an ongoing periodic clear up.
- 2.14 The latest meeting for the Beechdale Library 'Friends Of' group (yet to be established) agreed to host a Makaton introduction session on 13 May. We are meeting again on 1 July at 2pm to put together some activity sessions for the summer holidays. Anyone able to help or offer a taster session in anything appropriate please contact Ness on 01922 653714.
- 2.15 Aspire2Engage Project – continuing our work in partnership with Walsall Football Club Community Programme, we are hosting a borough wide showcase event on 27 June, 11-3pm. We have 100 stall holders coming along to promote the work their day in our local area. Admission is £1 which buys you a raffle ticket for some great prizes. All the funds made will be put towards a community grant scheme. Whatever we make on the day will be matched by Barclays.
- 2.16 An EU funding bid is being coordinated by Clean and Green and various partners to improve habitats and enhance footpaths to provide traffic free links to other areas of improvement and development towards Darlaston via the canal and aqueduct, around Reedswood Park. Wolverhampton Council is the lead organisation for the Black Country and the bid has to be with them by 1 July. The complete bid will be submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government by 29 July.

### **3. Children and Young People: Improving safeguarding, learning and life chances for children and young people**

- 3.1 Youth Support Service, Frank F Harrison and Blakenall Community Centre are co-ordinating activities with the support of Community Safety and Area Partnership to ensure there is less duplication.

- 3.2 Partners in North Walsall are putting together a programme of activities including using the Reach Up/Move Truck over the summer holidays. We are working with the Locality model to ensure vulnerable families are able to access activities and help.
- 3.3 Partners continue to work with key community people in Birchills to sustain the youth facility currently using Birchills Sure Start Centre. Help with funding and support is being given through our youth services and cohesion teams.
- 3.4 Birchills Sure Start hosted a successful fun day on 1 June. Many of the local groups took part in the event and will now come together again to make the Reedswood Park day on 21 July bigger and better. Area Partnerships have arranged a planning meeting for 20 June at 5pm at Birchills Sure Start.
- 3.5 Money from the Black Country Growth Deal will fund open space improvements along the Goscote Corridor, mainly on The Lea and Swannies Field. Planning consent was given in April and work is due to start towards the end of July.
- 3.6 Bloxwich Fire Station have completed their first fire cadet training programme which ran over 14 weeks. Young people learnt the importance of team work, communications, life saving skills and more. Anyone up to the age of 16 who is interested in the programme can contact Bloxwich Fire Station on 0121 380 7552.
- 3.7 Mossley Big Local put on a local event on 11 June to encourage local people to get involved and have their say over what they would like developed. Mossley Big Local are looking to have a community hub where local people can be upskilled, socialise and be more cohesive.

#### **4. Business and Jobs: Supporting business to thrive and supporting local people into work**

- 4.1 Job Centre Plus will be delivering their service from Blakenall and Birchills children's centres. This will include help in sourcing job offers, income support, information, advice and guidance relating to work.
- 4.2 Congratulations to Beechdale Community Housing Association's Community Champions who have been recognised with a Dora Award. Jemma and Emma encourage local people to get involved with community events, training and activity courses which in turn upskills local people.
- 4.3 We are working with Work on the Horizon to address a gap in provision for the over 30s. This will ensure clients are able to accept work without hitting barriers.

Work on the Horizon offer information:

- advice and guidance on careers and skills

- training to help with things like building confidence and motivation
- job search support including interview techniques
- internet access for job-search & training activities
- Job related training and work experience opportunities
- training to help you up-skill and develop new skills
- practical help with work related costs like childcare and transport
- and lots more

See more at: <http://www.onestopemploymentsshop.co.uk> or ring 01922 496555

## **5. Health and Well-Being: Improving health, including well-being and independence for older people**

- 5.1 Mossley Estate over 50's Club, organised by and for local residents meet every Thursday 10am-12.00pm at Mattesley Court.
- 5.2 The Watermill has now launched its old fashioned cinema which creates a stipulating, safe and happy environment for its residents.
- 5.3 Congratulations to Kayon at Green Lane Baptist Church who was invited to a VIP reception for voluntary groups at no 10. Mend It runs English classes to foreign language speakers, workshops, tea and chat, sewing, keep fit, and free bread. The project runs during term time from 9.45-3pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays with keep fit on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10am. For more details call 01922 625821.
- 5.4 St Giles Hospice in Goscote has launched a 24 hours, 365 days advice service for those suffering or caring for someone with life limiting illnesses. It can help with:
  - Accessing support and services
  - Emotional support
  - Symptom control
  - Financial advice
  - Nutritional support
  - Access to specialist equipment
  - Coping with bereavement
  - Information on support groups

The number is 0300 330 9410 or you can email [advice@stgileshospice.com](mailto:advice@stgileshospice.com)  
Calls are charged at a local rate.

- 5.5 St Thomas Church in Mossley have set up a mental health and wellbeing support group. If you suffer with stress, depression, anxiety or any other mental health condition come along and meet other people with shared experiences in a safe and confidential environment. Meetings are now held weekly on Tuesdays from 12-1 at St Thomas Church, Cresswell Crescent, Mossley. More details from Sara on 07586352810.

- 5.6 Sure Start Children's Centres have set up a Freedom Women's Support Programme to support those who have experienced domestic violence. All women are welcome to join and learn more about healthy and unhealthy relationships in a safe, non-judgemental environment. This is a 10 week rolling programme and women can join at any time during the programme. Please call 01922 646574 for more information.
- 5.7 Birchills Sure Start are establishing a Parent Forum once they have enough volunteers to attend. Other sessions taking place at the centre include Language Group, Messy Monkeys, Well Baby Clinic, Welfare Rights Drop in Session, Play and Saty with the Music Man, Post Natal Clinic, Care Leavers Group, Stop Smoking Clinic, Breastfeeding Support Group, Health Trainer and Stepping Stones. Some sessions have to be booked or are by referral. Please call 646574 for details.
- 5.8 Stan Ball now has a bereavement and social club taking place on Mondays from 2-3.30pm. Cost is £2 and all welcome.
- 5.9 Area Partnerships are looking to fund Walsall Link Line with a new project that will work with children to raise awareness of dementia. The project will link to uniformed activities, schools and youth clubs to do a series of workshops where children will be taught what to expect when a grandparent is diagnosed with dementia, how to maintain a relationship through the use of memory boxes and tools to alleviate fears that arise from some aspects of dementia.

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