

# **DARLASTON AND BENTLEY AREA PANEL**

## **Area Manager's Report**

**Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 This report seeks to inform Elected Members for the Darlaston and Bentley Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within the local area.
- 1.2 Darlaston South and Darlaston North and Bentley 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

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

- 2.1 Strategic partners include; West Midlands Police, Walsall Council Community Safety Team, Integrated Young Peoples Support Services, Clean and Green Services, Reassurance Team, Social Care and Inclusion, Area Family Support Team, Environmental Health, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmore/Accord Housing, Heantun Housing, Sanctuary Housing, Victim Support.
- 2.2 The introduction of the Borough's first 'No Cold Calling Zone' has moved a step nearer following a successful period of consultation across the Bentley area. Officers from Trading Standards, Area Partnerships, Community Safety and Walsall Housing Group visited every property over a week long period in June with a view to gauging support for the introduction of the zone. The responses are currently being analysed, however, early indications suggest over a 30% response rate with 99% of residents in favour of the initiative.
- 2.2 West Midlands Police Officers and officers from Walsall Council continue to support the local community in Moxley by proactively pursuing actions to reduce the impact of

'car cruising' across the area. West Midlands Police are working with Community Safety Teams across the Black Country to introduce an area wide injunction with added enforcement powers. One of the main areas of focus is Aldi car park in Moxley and following continued requests from Council officers and local elected members, Aldi have now agreed to reinstate security at the car park.

- 2.3 As part of the Moxley Community Hub project work, opportunities are being developed to enable the Friends of Moorcroft Wood to take on an increased role in the management of the Local Nature Reserve. This will include wood improvement schemes and the delivery of activities for the local community.
- 2.4 Officers from West Midlands Police local Neighbourhood Team are looking to develop new ways in which they can engage with local residents across Darlaston, Bentley and Moxley. As well as developing new Neighbourhood Watch Groups and Neighbourhood Beat Surgeries, they are also looking to introduce a series of 'web chats' to enable local people to comment on local policing priorities.
- 2.5 Darlaston Events Committee and Darlaston Town Centre Partnership have organised activities for this years Party in the Park that will take place on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July at Victoria Park and King Street from 11-3. Walsall Housing Group are working with Moorcroft Wood School to organise Moxley Fun Day at the school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August 10-4.

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

- 3.1 Strategic Partners include; Integrated Young People's Support Services, Bentley West Children's Centre, Darlaston Sure Start, Area Family Support Team, Grace Academy, Darlaston Schools Cluster, Walsall Housing Group, West Midlands Police, Moxley Community Hub Project Management Group, Old Hall People's Partnership.
- 3.2 Following the review of Children's Centres across the Borough and the introduction of a new 'Early Help' offer for families and young people, the footprint of the offer for families across Darlaston, Bentley and Moxley now mirrors the local Area Partnership. Darlaston Sure Start will be the base for workers from a number of key services within Children's Services that will support families across the area and this will ensure a consistent and responsive early help offer.
- 3.3 Old Hall Peoples Partnership are working alongside Darlaston Sure Start to deliver twice weekly sessions for young people at the Sure Start building in Darlaston. The sessions will add to the availability of services locally and aim to engage local young people in positive activities.

- 3.4 Darlaston Schools Cluster held a successful Summer Schools concert for the second year running at Darlaston Town Hall, the venue was packed out with proud parents and invited guests as talented young people from local schools performed.

**4. Business and Jobs: Supporting businesses to thrive and supporting local people in to work**

- 4.1 Strategic partners include; Walsall Council Economic Regeneration, Welfare Rights, District Centre Management, Darlaston JET, Walsall College, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmore/Accord Housing, Moxley Community Hub Project Management Group.
- 4.2 Darlaston Jet continue to deliver jobs and training support to local people across Darlaston, Bentley and Moxley and have organised an open day and consultation session for local people and stakeholders that will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> July from 10am - 4pm. This will help shape future local service provision.
- 4.3 Walsall Council's District Centre Management Team are currently producing a local booklet that will promote businesses and organisations across the partnership area

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

- 5.1 Strategic partners include; Walsall Council Public Health, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group, Sports Development, Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust, Integrated Young People's Support Services, Walsall Housing Group, Social Care and Inclusion, Darlaston Sure Start, Moxley Community Hub Project Management Group.
- 5.2 As part of Walsall Healthcare NHS Trusts ongoing campaign to increase the uptake of breast screening across the Borough, the service has recently been in Darlaston and the Area Partnership supported NHS colleagues in raising awareness across the Darlaston and Bentley area.
- 5.3 As part of the Walsall Clinical Commissioning Groups community assets pilot in the Rough Hay area, a local Partnership Steering Group has now been established to develop and deliver a 'listening event' in Rough Hay on the 30<sup>th</sup> August. The event will aim to capture the views of local residents that will start to form the basis of a community driven partnership group in the area.
- 5.4 The work of partners in Moxley Community Hub continues to prioritise activities around improving health for local people and a new project between Walsall Council's Sports Development Team and Moxley Medical Centre will see patient referrals to physical activities delivered at Moxley Peoples Centre.

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