

Walsall South Area Partnership

Engagement Plan

July 2015 onwards

Introduction: Community Hubs – Shaping a Fairer Future

- The purpose of community hubs is to provide locally-based focal points for the delivery of services.
- They will encourage greater community involvement in decisions about what services should be provided and how they are designed.
- The outcome we want to see is better access to all services and more localised delivery.
- This does not just cover council services and is not just physical access to buildings.

The Area Picture: What is the Area Partnership?

Walsall Partnership, the umbrella organisation which includes Walsall Council, West Midlands Police, Walsall Housing Group, NHS Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group and a host of community organisations from across Walsall have made a commitment to give people living, working or accessing local services in Walsall a greater say in making decisions that affect them in their local area.

There are six Area Partnerships in Walsall, which are each supported by an Area Manager:

Walsall South

(Paddock, Palfrey, Pleck and St. Matthew's)

Area Manager: John Morris john.morris@walsall.gov.uk

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Area Partnerships recognises that local residents and community groups know best what they want, when it needs to be done and how. Area Partnerships provide a mechanism where local people are actively encouraged to participate in helping the council and its partners to tackle the major issues that concern residents.

Area Partnerships work across-directorates, with local councillors and the wider communities to assist with the delivery of the Walsall Plan's strategic priorities of:

- Supporting business to thrive and supporting local people into work.
- Improving Health including well being and independence for older people.
- Creating Safe, Sustainable and Inclusive Communities – Reducing levels of crime and providing the right environment for people to live in.
- Improving Safeguarding, Learning and the Life Chances for Children and Young People.

Walsall South Communities

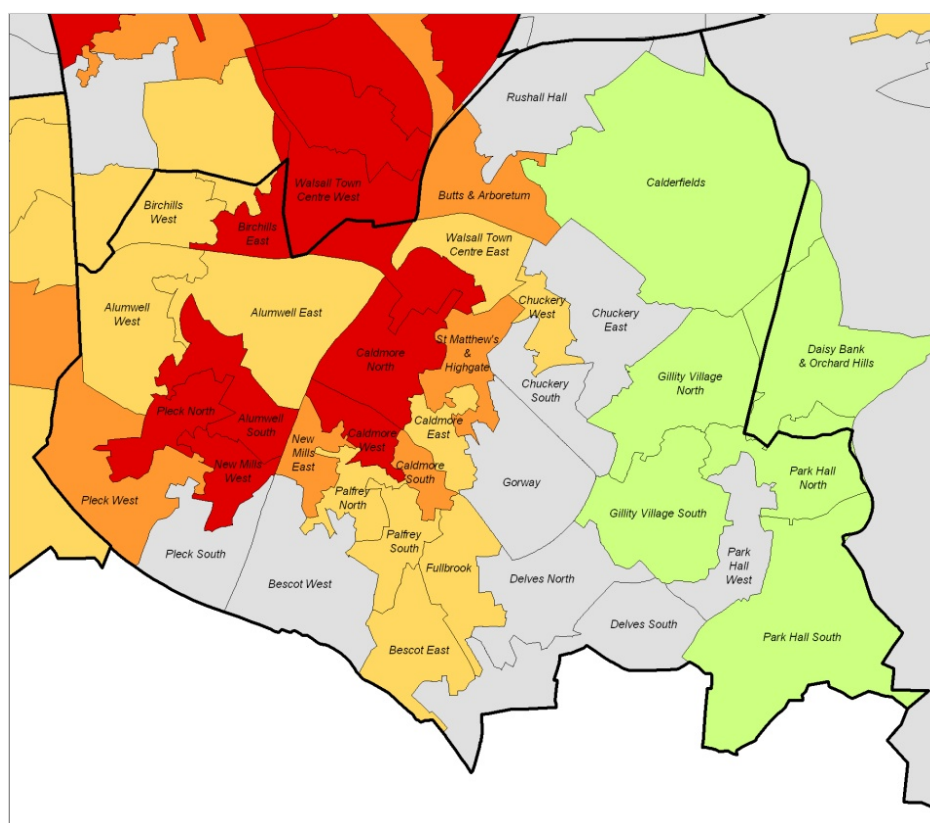
Summary Area Partnership Profile information:

From the 2011 ONS Census & other data sources

www.walsallintelligence.org.uk www.walsall.gov.uk/census www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk
www.nomisweb.co.uk

Walsall South – Summary profile information:

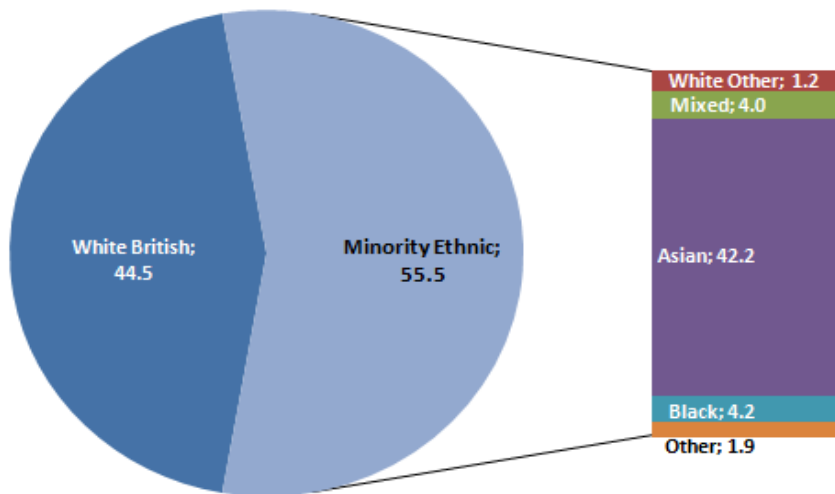
- Relatively young population profile, with a higher than borough average proportion of children and younger adults
- Very diverse ethnic mix, with a large (and increasing) Asian population
- Variable levels of life expectancy across the Area Partnership
- High levels of privately rented properties and under 65s living alone



Life Expectancy

- Average life expectancy (LE) for females in Walsall is 82.7 years
- Female LE in Paddock (84) is above average
- Female LE in St. Matthew's, Pleck and Palfrey is below average
- Average life expectancy (LE) for males in Walsall is 77.8 years
- Male LE in Paddock (79.4) is above average
- Male LE in St. Matthew's, Pleck and Palfrey is below average

Ethnicity



- Pakistani: 17.6%
- Indian: 13.9%
- Bangladeshi: 6.4%
- Other Asian: 3.7%
- Minority ethnic groups (Asian in particular) account for a majority of residents, almost double the borough average (Walsall av. 23.1%)

Source: ONS, 2011 Census

Health Issues

Obesity

- Across Walsall South the proportion of obesity in Reception (aged 4/5) and older (aged from 8 to 11) children are statistically significantly higher than the Walsall average.

Diabetes Prevalence

- Most community areas in Walsall South have higher estimated prevalence for diabetes than Walsall average (8.7%), with the exception of Caldmore and Delves which are statistically significantly lower than Walsall average.

Trauma related to fall and hip fractures (aged 65 and over)

Alcohol admissions

NHS health checks

How are people engaged currently?

Within Walsall South there are a wealth of local voluntary and community groups, alongside statutory agencies who work within the community.

Walsall Council, Registered Social Landlords, such as whg, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service, town centre businesses, libraries, faith and religious groups, schools, 'Friends of...' and many other community and voluntary groups all have a role in engaging with the wider local communities.

Area Partnerships co-ordinates Networking Meetings and Partnership Meetings in the local area, which brings together different services and organisations to enable better co-ordination of work activities for the local community.

Area Partnerships regularly disseminates information to the local communities, using email and social media, such as Facebook and Twitter.

Walsall South Area Panel is a Walsall Council constituted group, comprising of local Ward Councillors. The meetings occur in the local community and residents are invited to attend the meetings.

Various other local groups meet.

Area Partnership Approaches to consultation and engagement

Consultation is the dynamic process of dialogue between individuals or groups based on a genuine exchange of views, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies or programmes of action. (The Consultation Institute)

The terms consultation, involvement and engagement which improve understanding and contribute to community action and positive change are often misunderstood or used interchangeably. All are about listening to the views of local people in order to shape services, develop policy or take action.

For the purposes of this document these terms are defined as follows:

Consultation is the overall process of asking for and listening to the views of local people or groups with the aim of influencing decisions, policies or actions.

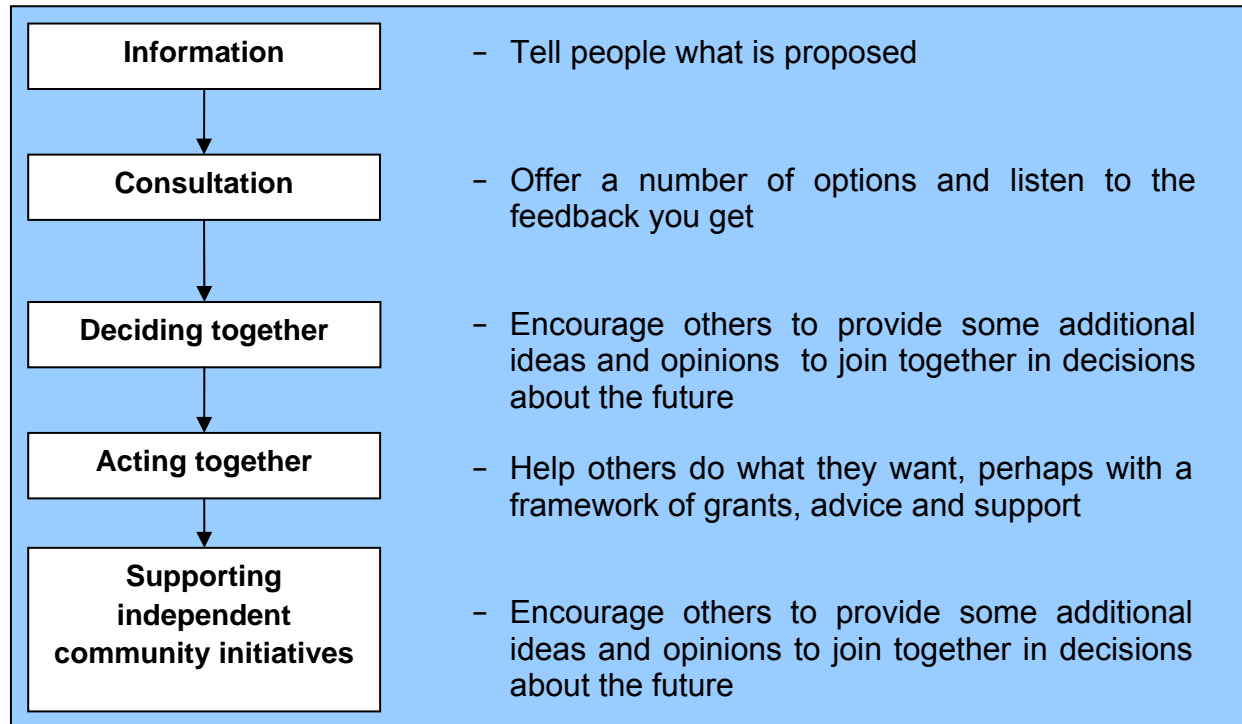
Involvement is a process in which people actively participate, during which the information is exchanged and views sought, with the aim of influencing decisions.

Engagement involves an on-going two-way partnership between the partner organisations and stakeholders. Decision-making may be shared between the parties.

In practice there are no clear-cut distinctions between the different terms and it is easier to think of them on a ladder. A well established model of participation sets out

5 levels of participation, from providing information right through to community initiatives (Fig. 1);

Fig. 1 Ladder of participation (David Wilcox, 1994)



Walsall South

Hubs/Network Meeting

As part of the hubs/networking initiatives Area Partnerships will be contacting using the following networks/groups as part of the on-going discussions regarding hubs/networking.

Groups			
Audience	Activity	Delivery Organisation	When
Walsall South Area Panel	Information exchange/discussion	Area Partnerships	July 2015
Aaina Centre	Information exchange/discussion	Aaina Centre	TBC
Aisha Mosque	Event with opportunity to consult	Aisha Mosque	TBC
Alumwell Action Group	Information exchange/discussion	Alumwell Action Group	TBC
Birchills & Reedswood Agenda 21	Information exchange/discussion	Agenda 21	TBC
Black Sisters Collective	Feedback and discussion	Black Sisters Collective	TBC
British Muslim Youth Group	Information exchange/discussion	BMYG	TBC
Caldmore Traders Association	Information exchange/discussion	Caldmore Traders Association	TBC
Chuckery Festival Group	Information exchange/discussion	Chuckery Festival Group	TBC
Church Hill Group	Event with opportunity to consult	Church Hill Group	TBC
Delves Place of Refuge	Event with opportunity to consult	Place of Refuge	TBC
Friends of Chuckery Green	Information exchange/discussion	Friends of Chuckery Green	TBC

Friends of Palfrey Park	Event with opportunity to consult	Friends of Palfrey Park	TBC
Guru Nanak Gurdwara	Event with opportunity to consult	Guru Nanak Gurdwara	TBC
Joseph Leckie Community Association	Information exchange/discussion	Joseph Leckie Community Association	TBC
Palfrey & Caldmore Residents Group	Information exchange/discussion	Palfrey & Caldmore Residents Group	TBC
Palfrey Community Association	Information exchange/discussion	Palfrey Community Association	TBC
Park Hall Community Association	Event with opportunity to consult	Park Hall Community Association	TBC
Palfrey SureStart	Event with opportunity to consult	Palfrey SureStart	TBC
Pleck Library	Information exchange/discussion	Pleck Library	TBC
Small Street Centre	Information exchange/discussion	Small Street Centre	TBC
Willbraham Court	Information exchange/discussion	Willbraham Court	TBC
Walsall South Area Panel	Feedback and discussion	Area Partnerships	October, 2015
<i>Opportunities to Network through existing groups and new groups/events (ongoing)</i>			<i>(future dates to be added)</i>