



## **Darlaston & Bentley Area Partnership Area Manager Report** – updated 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013

### **Ongoing Updates on the Actions for Darlaston & Bentley Area Partnership**

#### **1. Purpose of the report**

This report seeks to inform Area Panel members from the Darlaston & Bentley Area Panel of some of the work carried out within the two wards of Darlaston South and Darlaston North & Bentley in line with our local Area Plan.

#### **2. Area Plan Development**

The Area Plan for the local Area Partnership has been developed in line with strategic priorities as set out for the Borough through the 'Walsall Plan' and the strategic plans identified by each of the thematic strategic boards. Local intelligence has been adopted to ensure a local delivery plan is adopted that meets the needs, challenges and aspirations of local communities across the partnership area.

#### **3. Children and Young People**

Partners involved – Darlaston Schools Cluster, Grace Academy, Area Family Support Team, Bentley West Children's Centre, Darlaston Sure Start, Walsall Housing Group, WM Police, IYPSS, Moxley Hub Project Management Group

- 3.1** Following several incidents regarding 'near misses' involving inconsiderate parking outside Old Church School, the Area Partnership are supporting the development of initiatives that will provide a safer environment for local children and residents in the area, including support to a project that will see pupils produce an awareness banner to be placed outside of the school gates. The effectiveness of this could see it developed at other schools suffering similar problems.
- 3.2** IYPSS are working in partnership with Moxley and Dangerfield Action Group and Moxley Peoples Centre to develop a schedule of activities and opportunities for young people in the Moxley area.





## Walsall Area Partnerships

**3.3** The Area Partnership are working with colleagues in Public Health, Sports and Leisure and Moorcroft Wood School to develop opportunities for young people to access existing 'free swimming' sessions with the support of 'free lessons'.

**3.4** The Area Partnership are working alongside Old Hall Peoples Partnership and Darlaston Sure Start to develop a consultation exercise with young people in Darlaston that will deliver better outcomes and opportunities through positive behaviour.

### **4. Business and Jobs**

Partners involved – Economic Regeneration, Darlaston JET, Welfare Rights Team, Walsall College, Walsall Housing Group, District Centre Management, Caldmore/Accord Housing, Moxley Hub Project Management Group

**4.1** Following on from the successful 'Community Network Lunch' that took place earlier in the year, the Area Partnership are working alongside Old Hall Peoples Partnership and colleagues in Economic Regeneration to deliver a further network lunch in November that will focus on 'Jobs and Training'. The event will bring local providers, community organisations and local residents together to identify opportunities for people to access skills and job training locally.

**4.2** The Area Partnership has been supporting colleagues in Regeneration regarding the forthcoming Phoenix 10 and Darlaston Enterprise Zone developments. A number of consultation events will be taking place with local groups and residents to outline the next stages of the planned work and how this will impact on local areas.

### **5. Health and Well-Being**

Partners involved – Public Health, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, Healthy Lifestyles Team, Physical Activities Team, Darlaston Sure Start, Walsall Housing Group, Adult Social Care, Reassurance Team, IYPSS, Caldmore/Accord Housing

**5.1** As previously reported, as part of an Area Partnership driven approach to deliver support to local communities, working closely with partners from Public Health, Children's Services, Clinical Commissioning Group and Walsall Housing Group, a piece of work will be undertaken to identify, support and develop community assets within the Rough Hay area. This will focus on developing community capacity building strategies that help reduce health inequalities, improve job prospects, improve community safety and raise local aspirations, an initial 'scoping' of the area





## Walsall Area Partnerships

has now taken place and partners will now support the development of an action plan to consult, communicate and work with local residents and stakeholders to move the project forward.

- 5.2** The Area Partnership is working with colleagues from Sports and Leisure to develop a Darlaston Town Centre 'health walk' that will not only provide local community members the opportunity to access free physical activities, it will also highlight local providers that deliver activities and opportunities within the Town Centre, including, Darlaston Library, Darlaston JET, whg, Caldmore/Accord, Darlaston Swimming Pool and others.
- 5.3** The 'Black Country in Motion Project' will be getting underway in the coming weeks across Bentley and Darlaston North. The programme is delivered through funding from the Lottery and Sport England and is supported by colleagues in Sports and Leisure. The aims of the programme are to deliver better sporting pathways and to grow opportunities for informal and formal sport by engaging and training community members, clubs and organisations to deliver and sustain inactive people into sport.

### **6. Safe and Sustainable Communities**

Partners Involved – Community Safety Team, IYPSS, WM Police, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmore/Accord Housing, Heantun Housing, Clean and Green Services, Reassurance Team, Adult Social Care, Victim Support, Environmental Health

- 6.1** Darlaston Events Committee delivered its annual 'Diversity Event' in October and the event was supported by an impressive number of partners showcasing local services, arts, food, faiths and culture. The event was very well attended and saw Darlaston Town Hall welcome in excess of 100 local people.
- 6.2** A series of events have taken place in Bentley to consult on plans for improvement works to Bentley West Playing Fields, plans include new paths, improvements to security and play equipment. Colleagues in Clean and Green delivered the events that saw local people and elected members show a keen interest in the plans for the park and provided constructive comments that will be included in an action plan for the park.
- 6.3** The recent introduction of Sports and Leisure colleagues in to Darlaston Town Hall has seen the development of the venue as a 'Sports and Leisure' Hub over the past few months, the team are now keen to develop a wider offer for the Town Hall that will see more opportunities for local





## Walsall Area Partnerships

people to access services and events, forthcoming planned events include an indoor table top sale and schools Christmas concert event.

- 6.4** Local police colleagues and partners recently delivered a 'live' web chat to residents across the area outlining local priorities around policing crime and asb.

### Report Author

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