

Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall & Shelfield Area Panel

**Tuesday, 15th July, 2014 at 6.00 p.m.
Pelsall Village Centre, High Street, Pelsall, Walsall**

Present

Councillor G. Perry (Chair)
Councillor B. Cassidy (Vice-Chair)
Councillor O. D. Bennett
Councillor Clews
Councillor S. R. Craddock
Councillor L. J. Rattigan
Councillor R. V. Worrall

Officers in attendance

Ranjit Kaur – Partnership Manager
Beverley Mycock – Committee Business and Governance Manager

61/14 Apologies

No apologies had been received.

62/14 Minutes of meetings

- i. 31st March 2014
- ii. 1st May 2014

Resolved

That the minutes of the meetings held on 31st March 2014 and 1st May 2014, copies having previously been circulated to each Member of the Committee be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

63/14 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest for the duration of the meeting.

64/14 Local Government Access to Information Act, 1985 (as amended)

There were no items to be discussed in private session.

66/14 **Emergency and Urgent Care Consultation**

The Chairman reported that this agenda item would be considered at the end of the meeting, as a speaker was not in attendance at that time.

67/14 **Draft Area Community Plan Refresh**

The report of the Area Manager was submitted

(see annexed)

The Area Manager introduced the Draft Area Community Plan Refresh and highlighted the identified four strategic priorities. She reported that each Area Partnership would produce their individual Area Community Plans in order to raise community awareness of the work and activities undertaken across the Area Partnerships, as well as informing residents of the various agencies and partners involved.

Councillor Perry **moved** and it was duly **seconded** by Councillor Worrall:-

That the Draft Area Community Plan Summary document be approved, with amendments to the final version to be agreed by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Resolved

That the Draft Area Community Plan Summary document be approved, with amendments to the final version to be agreed by the Chair and Vice-Chair.

68/14 **Area Manager Report**

The report of the Area Manager was submitted

(see annexed)

The Area Manager presented the report and highlighted the salient points therein. She stated that the report contained a great deal of detail in order to capture the work that had taken place since March 2014. The Area Manager also provided feedback on the Life Education Centre project that had been approved for funding in January 2014.

The Chairman raised a query in relation to the "Summer Programmes" which had been launched by IYPSS in late June with match funding from the Area Partnership. He stated that there had been no activities advertised that were specific to the Area Partnership and that the Area Partnership had not been recognised as having match funded any activities. He also stated that details appeared to have been closed down on the Internet. The Area Manager

stated she would check the website with IYPSS and ensure the Area Partnership was recognised.

A query was raised as to whether schools provided lunch during their summer holiday schemes. The Area Manager replied that the onus was on parents to provide a packed lunch at most of the venues.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

69/14 Funding Report

The funding report was submitted

(see annexed)

The Area Manager presented the report and informed Committee there were seven summarised project applications and requested Members to consider the seven funding applications as detailed at Appendix 1 of the report.

Councillor Perry **moved** and it was duly **seconded** by Councillor Bennett that all applications be granted. Members voted in favour of the Motion it was therefore

Resolved (unanimously)

- i. That £1,500.00 be allocated towards the Fordbrook Bridge project to improve security on the bridge to prevent young people from throwing missiles on to oncoming traffic;
- ii. That £1,158.00 be allocated towards the IYPSS project to initiate and run a themed summer provision of activities across the area called Summer of Change which will aim to improve health and wellbeing for all attendees;
- iii. That £1,418.00 be allocated towards the Numeracy Boost project to meet the more challenging requirements for children to know their number facts and times tables from an earlier age, which is a statutory requirement from the new primary curriculum 2014;
- iv. That £1,824.99 to the Howdles Lane project to install bollards and mark out parking bays in a well used parking area that is used by the residents of Brownhills West;
- v. That £183.00 be allocated to the Libraries Summer Activities Workshops to provide three summer activities workings aimed at children over 10 years old during the summer holidays 2014;

- vi. That £2,025.00 be allocated to the Young People's Summer Play Scheme project to help finance a summer play scheme for young people aged 4 to 12 years old during the six weeks holidays;
- vii. That £2,372.00 be allocated to the Brownhills Canoe Centre Car Park to make good the car park area at Brownhills Canoe and Outdoor Centre.

70/14 Co-opted Members

The Chair gave a verbal report in relation to Co-opted Members on the Area Panel. He stated that he did not feel there was a need to appoint local residents to become co-opted Members as they would have no voting rights. Members were in agreement with the Chair.

The Committee Business and Governance Manager reported that a Co-opted Member's term of office was for the duration of the Municipal Year in which they were appointed only and that Area Panel Members would be required to identify individuals they wished to recommend to Council for appointment at the start of each Municipal Year. She confirmed that Democratic Services would only send out agenda papers to Area Panel Members and Co-opted Members.

The Chair and the Vice-Chair stated they would write jointly to the Portfolio Holder for Community Engagement and the Voluntary Sector in relation to the role of Co-opted Members within Area Partnerships, and that they would meet with the Head of Communities and Partnerships to enquire why the Area Panel had received no update following the introduction of the Cabinet report entitled Devolution Through Area Partnerships in April 2013, as had been requested.

71/14 Dates and venues for future meetings

The Panel noted the proposed venues for future meetings.

72/14 Emergency and Urgent Care Consultation

The consultation on Urgent and Emergency Care choices in Walsall was submitted:-

(see annexed)

Mr. Andy Rust, Head of the Joint Commissioning Unit, introduced himself and gave apologies from Dr. Rischie, the Clinical Lead for Urgent Care at Walsall CCG as he was attending another Area Panel meeting on that same evening.

Mr. Rust gave a detailed presentation on a consultation taking place within Walsall on behalf of Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The consultation commenced in November 2013 to understand the views of people who used urgent care sites, which included the A&E. The Walk in Centre in Walsall town centre and the Emergency and Urgent Walk in Centre (BADGER) behind the A&E at the Manor Hospital, in order to develop a longer term vision.

Mr. Rust explained the difference between:-

- Urgent Care – offering advice and treatment for minor illnesses or injuries where a patient can't wait for a routine appointment with a GP;
- Emergency Care – these are life threatening illnesses or injuries such as chest pains, loss of consciousness, severe loss of blood, choking, fits that aren't stopping or breathing difficulties.

Mr. Rust reported that since November 2013, Walsall CCG had been talking to residents and organisations to understand the views of service users. Numerous reoccurring areas of concerns emerged which included:-

- GP care good but cannot get an appointment;
- Confusion about where to go with many people finding the services difficult to use;
- People unaware there are two walk in centres in Walsall;
- Services don't share information;
- Access issues, people with mobility problems unable to park near Walsall Walk in Centre;

Using feedback to date to develop plans, the consultation is in two parts:-

1. Longer term vision – whether people support the longer term vision as detailed within the consultation document and;
2. Immediate choices – which of the choices meets the needs of patients in Walsall in relation to a Walsall Walk in Centre, due to the current location of the Walsall Walk in Centre not being available after April 2015, due to town centre redevelopment.

Mr. Rust then requested questions and comments from all present some of which included:-

- Is it correct that 50% of admissions to A&E are not appropriate – very hard message to get out to people
over 50% of NHS use is inappropriate, not just A&E;

- Over reliance on A&E and Urgent Care Centre at Manor is because GP surgeries are not open long enough hours, creating a culture pattern;
- The move of WALDOC to BADGER was not good – everyone knew where WALDOC was located and it was easily accessible – not many people aware of what BADGER is let alone where it is;
- BADGER Emergency Care Centre is behind the A&E and badly signposted – no one knows where it is so attend A&E when it is not necessary – also major issues re expensive car parking charges and slowly people are losing confidence;
- All practices should operate in the same way i.e. channel patients to the correct areas
Inconsistency is an issue as GP's are operating their own business' and there are 163 GP's in the borough operating to their own requirement;
- Discharge times for patients – patients have to wait too long for an ambulance to transport them home
West Midlands Ambulance Service covers a number of boroughs and the urgency of the job must be taken into consideration when limited ambulances and the location of the ambulances at given times;
- A new Walk in Centre should remain within the town centre as all public transport focuses there.
- BADGER Centre could be moved into the same facility, as Manor Hospital parking is an issue;
- Admissions in relation to elderly falls are on the increase due to lack of care within their homes, again all service areas should liaise;
- There must be a role played by families supporting their own family members – needs to be part of the wider work promoted to involve families more, i.e. picking up family members when they are discharged instead of potentially tying up an ambulance from an emergency call;

At the conclusion of the item, Mr. Rust thanked everyone present for their valuable input. He confirmed that the strong consensus from the Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall, Shelfield Area Panel was for a Walk in Centre to remain easily accessible within the town centre.

The Area Manager to liaise with Mr. Rust and arrange for a Mental Health and Dementia speaker to attend a future Area Panel meeting.

Termination of meeting

The meeting terminated at 7.25 p.m.

Chair:.....

Date:.....