

# **WALSALL SOUTH AREA PANEL**

## **Area Manager's Report**

**Updated Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015**

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

- 1.1 This report seeks to inform Elected Members for the Walsall South Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within the local area. The information in this report was correct at the time of writing, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015.
- 1.2 Walsall Council 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
- 1.3 Walsall South Area Partnership has a number of key priorities which have been identified through work with Ward Councillors, partner agencies, Walsall Intelligence Network and the local community:
- Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
  - Creating cleaner and tidier neighbourhoods
  - Healthy Lifestyles
  - Remove the impact of sex workers and drug dealers
  - Improving educational achievement
  - Improving job prospects and employability
  - Improving roads maintenance and traffic flow
- 1.4 Walsall South Ward Councillors: Cllr Anson, Cllr Arif, Cllr Ditta, Cllr Hussain, Cllr Nazir, Cllr Nawaz, Cllr McCracken, Cllr Martin, Cllr Russell, Cllr Sarohi, Cllr Singh Sohal, Cllr Whyte
- 1.5 Walsall South Partners: Community Safety, Walsall Youth Support Services, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Probation Service, Walsall Intelligence Network, Environmental Health, Reassurance Team, Walsall South Area Partnership, Public Health, NHS Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Walsall Town Centre Management Team, Engineering and Transport, Clean & Green Services,

Caldmoreaccord Housing Association, Walsall Housing Group (whg), Watmos Community Homes, Walsall Voluntary Action, West Midlands Fire Service, Social Care and Inclusion, Birchills Children's Centre, Chuckery & Paddock Children's Centre, Sure Start Palfrey Children's Centre, Sure Start Alumwell Pleck Children's Centre, Area Family Support Team, Trading Standards, Community Development, Park Hall Community Association, Palfrey Community Association, Joseph Leckie Community Association, Caldmore Traders Association, Caldmore Village Festival Group, Chuckery Festival Group, Caldmore Community Garden, Bath Street Centre – Befriending Service, Walsall Black Sisters Collective, Aaiana Community Hub, Time4Real project, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, Clean & Green Services, Sports & Leisure Services, Jobcentre Plus, Citizen Advice Bureau, Welfare Rights, Walsall College, Libraries, Walsall South Neighbourhood Watch Groups, Walsall South Friends of the Parks Groups, Walsall Community Chaplaincy Service, First Base, Addaction, Lantern House, Hi's N Lows, The Glebe Centre, Victim Support, Walsall South Schools, Walsall Adult Community College (WACC).

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

2.1 Apache CCTV for Walsall South - Area Manager working with Surveillance Unit we currently have access to one camera that can be deployed in the area. Camera 1 Spout Lane due to ASB concerns including street drinking and Fly tipping. We also help with the deployment of the Birchills NHW / Agenda 21 camera, which is for the Birchills area only, current location Cairns Street / Raleigh Street due to ASB concerns raised by residents.

2.2 Caldmore & Palfrey Community Action Day – was held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December starting at 7:00 am and finished around midnight. Partners were out and about in the area. The day was suggested by WM Police and facilitated by Walsall South Area Partnership. The idea behind the day was to show the community that all partners listen to residents and work together to provide a joined up approach to provide solutions to issues of concerns in the Caldmore & Palfrey areas. The partners involved on the day (only the Police were covering the whole time, other partners dipped in and out):

- **Clean and Green Services** their focus was to liaise with residents who have contaminated recycling bins by providing Information and support. Emptying of contaminated bins was undertaken after education discussions with the residents this was a one off provision as part of the Action Day. The team were on site 9:00 – 11:30 am the normal bin day for this area is Wednesday. The team were able to speak to a number of residents to reinforce the message of how important recycling is to Walsall Council but also giving practical assistance. Some residents had already emptied their contaminated bins, since Wednesday, some residents were not in but a note was pushed through their door explaining the Action Day and clarifying what was wrong with their bin and why it had not been initially emptied. The value of the day gave us

an insight into how our bin crews work through the area and the difficulties they experience. It also allowed us to empty contaminated bins that would have built up with excess waste over the holiday period thus spilling onto the highway and causing a potential problem to our street cleansing team. All residents who were interacted with were grateful of the assistance. Streets visited included St Michael Street, Glebe Street, Watery Lane, Victor Street, Countess Street. The team also removed fly tipped furniture on Bath Street. In all 22 bins were emptied, 2 lorry loads went to the tip with a total weight of 640kg. The team also came out on the next day to clean Spout Lane waste ground site as it had been highlighted for Fly Tipping especially empty alcohol bottles during the Action Day.

- **Parking Enforcement** provided 3 Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) for the area, one on duty in the vicinity all day with the additional two CEOs during the middle of the day their focus was to prevent inconsiderate parking, they worked jointly with **WM Police**. The officers asked 26 drivers to move their vehicles and where the driver wasn't present in the vehicle eight Penalty Charge Notices were issued. The Parking Enforcement vehicle also patrolled the area. Promotion of "drive smart park right campaign" was endorsed through the Police Hub drop in session. Officers also promoted the "Park It Don't Plonk It" traffic awareness course.
- **Environmental Health** provided litter patrols and general advice during the Action Day. They also dealt with an obstruction of the Highway.
- **Trading Standards** were out & about in Caldmore and visited a number of shops giving advice and information on a range of potentially harmful food allergen issues.
- **Noise Team** jointly with **Caldmoreaccord** ASB officers monitored and provided advice on noise awareness for residents in the Caldmore area.
- **Caldmoreaccord** ASB officers also patrolled the area and spoke to residents at the Alms Houses, Wednesbury Road who had raised their concerns with regards to anti-social behaviour caused by sex workers.
- **Walsall South Area Partnership** along with **WM Police** provided advice during a community drop in session at the Police Hub at Caldmore Green. We received visits from residents and partners, including 5 members of the Palfrey & Caldmore NHW group they thanked us for the work that was being done in the area as part of the Action Day and they highlighted some issues for partners to focus on.
- **Whg** Community Safety Team were out and about with **WM Police** providing reassurance and taking action on cases of concern. They carried out joint ASB visits with Officers from the Caldmore and Palfrey Neighbourhood Team focusing on those areas such as the Orlando Estate in Caldmore where drug activity has been occurring. Both partners provided high visibility and reassurance to residents who raised concerns around drug users injecting in whg blocks and also

causing a nuisance. The night was a success and this work will continue in order to reduce ASB and crime.

- **Community Safety** Victims Champions / Security Improvements officer and Community Cohesion Engagement officer were offering support and advice in the area.
- **WM Police** deployed officers from the Paddock and Palfrey Neighbourhood Team (NHT), Walsall Community Action & Priority Team (CAPT) and officers from the Forces Road Policing Unit.
- **CAPT** team officers executed a warrant under the terms of a warrant issued under the Misuse of Drugs Act, which saw the recovery of substances believed to be Class A drugs, and two persons arrested. This warrant was supported by officers from the **NHT** who conducted reassurance patrols.
- **NHT** in conjunction with **Taxi Licensing** officer conducted joint visits, visiting Taxi firms advising and educating drivers around issues of caring for vulnerable passengers and increasing awareness of the signs of Child Sexual Exploitation.
- A dispersal order was authorised by Supt Kendrick to tackle ASB in the Spout Lane and surrounding areas of Caldmore & Palfrey, this was effective for a period of 48hrs running from 1600hrs on 19.12.14 through to the 21.12.14. This order saw the dispersal of 7 males from the area who were drinking and acting in an anti social manner.
- WM Police **Force Traffic Unit** conducted a drink drive initiative in and around the area. This resulted in a number of stops, but no arrests for any drink drive offences.

2.3 St Matthew's Church Hill – a litter pick has been organised for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February by Asda's Community Life Champion with support from the Princes Trust, St Matthew's Church and the Time 4 Real community volunteers. The Tidy will meet on Church Hill at 10:00 am for more details please contact Martin Bateman 01922 704120 [mbatema.s04229.uk@wal-mart.com](mailto:mbatema.s04229.uk@wal-mart.com)

2.4 Friends of Palfrey Park – are organising a litter pick event around Palfrey Park Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February meeting at the Pavilion @ 10:45 am. Please wear sturdy shoes and suitable clothing, litter pickers will be provided along with refreshments for all volunteers.

2.5 Caldmore & Palfrey Community Clean-up Event - UKIM Youth group from Aisha Mosque and Islamic Centre, Caldmore Village Festival group and Bath Street Centre are organising a Tidy Event Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February, meeting at the Mosque 10:00 am. Refreshments will be available for all volunteers for more information please contact Yasir 0782 521 3361 or Mark 077769 155246.

2.6 Darlaston Road, Pleck – a signal-controlled crossing will be installed in February and will take approximately 3 weeks to complete subject to weather

conditions. The location is near Hough Road and will replace the existing Zebra Crossing, the project has been approved by the Darlaston Strategic Development Area project board.

- 2.7 Caldmore Heritage Group – has achieved ‘Asset of Community Value’ status for the White Lion pub in Caldmore and this is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> pub in the borough to achieve such status. This will enable the group to safeguard the building for community use only. The pub has embraced this status, over the Christmas period, by offering free meals to senior citizens living in the area.
- 2.8 The Fellowship Players – who meet at the Grange Playhouse are looking for new members in particular they would like to hear from men who are over 40 to help them when they perform ‘Beyond Reasonable Doubt’ by Jeffrey Archer in June 2015. For more information please contact Chris on 01922 446821 or email [chrisjgardner12@gmail.com](mailto:chrisjgardner12@gmail.com)
- 2.9 Former Harvestime Bakery, Raleigh Street, Birchills – a public exhibition was held Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January to inform residents and the wider community about the proposals for residential redevelopment at the site. Any feedback can be sent to [harvestime@rpsgroup.com](mailto:harvestime@rpsgroup.com) by no later than Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February.
- 2.10 Celebration of a new ministry, St Matthew’s Church – the licensing of the Reverend James (Jim) William Trood took place Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January with the Deputy Mayor Cllr Angela Underhill, Paul Sheehan, Cllr Rose Martin and Walsall South Area Manager in attendance representing Walsall Council. The Church has been without a Reverend for nearly two years so Jim has been very well received by the congregation. At this moment in time Jim is the Priest in Charge of St Matthew’s but also Rector Designate, this is due to the fact that the church is currently going through the process to amalgamate St Gabriel’s Church, Delves and St Michael’s Church, Caldmore under his governance.
- 2.11 Innovate Walsall C.I.C, Chuckery - is a community based organisation in the Chuckery area. They have been running activities for nearly a year now including; training, coffee mornings, youth club, after school homework club and both faith & community events. If you would like more information please contact Nasar Iqbal Operations and Partnerships Manager [nasariqbal909@hotmail.com](mailto:nasariqbal909@hotmail.com)
- 2.12 Street Cleaning, Walsall Town Centre – the town centre seven day a week pilot street cleaning project has been so successful at reducing the build-up of Town Centre litter that Clean & Green Services have decided to extend the scheme.
- 2.13 Delves Baptist Community Church - £57,000 renovation work has been completed including disabled toilet facilities, improvements to doorways and a

new counselling room. The church members carried out various fund raising activities and Marston's paid for facilities for children with disabilities.

- 2.14 Park Street Railway Bridge - work was started to accommodate overhead power lines as reported previously in the Area Manager's report. However complications have been discovered and the work will now need to be delayed till later in the year. The 1930's structure turned out to be different from the plans, which has now meant the work needs to be reassessed.

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

- 3.1 Walsall South's Youth Support Services - Myplace, Delves provided community feasts and Christmas brunch over the Christmas period this was in partnership with The Leaving Care Team's New Belongings project. The event was well attended by young people and councillors. Peer educative music and dance workshops are continuing as part of the Big Music project and the group have performed at a Youth Conference and are now working towards entering a talent show in March. At Walsall Gala Baths, over 30 young people are participating in swimming dance and gym sessions on a Friday night on a regular basis. The team continue to provide Detached youth work although this has been quite due to the cold weather. An interactive hate crime tool has been created and is being utilised in session with the young people and will be placed for a period of time at the local police station.

- 3.2 Sure Start Palfrey and Paddock & Chuckery Children's Centre – both centres have a full packed programme, February Highlights:

- *Make A Special Valentine's Day Gift* – at the Saturday Family Fun Session (14<sup>th</sup> Feb, 10.30am-12.30pm) at Sure Start Palfrey
- *The Animal Man* – come along with your family to see the Animal Man at Sure Start Palfrey (Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 1.30-3.00pm) and at Chuckery Primary School (Thu 19<sup>th</sup>, 10.00-11.30am)
- *Gingerbread Lone Parents Support Group* – This group starts 10<sup>th</sup> February (10.00am-12.00pm) at Sure Start Palfrey and offers support with education, childcare, benefits advice and group activities for lone parent families.
- *FREE World Book Day Token* – Claim your free World Book Day Token whilst stocks last. Available from the last week in February, the token is valid 2<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> March in participating book shops.

For more information please contact Palfrey 01922 642382 and Paddock & Chuckery 01922 644005

- 3.3 Sure Start Birchills and Alumwell/Pleck – both centres have a full packed programme including; Chatter Box Playgroup , Well Baby Clinic, Health Trainer sessions, Stop Smoking service, Sewing classes, antenatal classes, introduction to solids, Breast Feeding Support group. During January the Birchills Centre supported the NHS Cervical Screening campaign by running awareness raising sessions. For more information please contact Birchills 01922 646574 and Alumwell/Pleck 01922 637794
- 3.4 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness event - took place at the Shree Ram Mandir (Hindu Temple), Pleck 24<sup>th</sup> January. The event was designed to raise awareness of prevention and grooming including an open discussion followed by refreshments. For more information about the event please contact Vasant Mistry on [vasant.mistry@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:vasant.mistry@yahoo.co.uk).
- 3.5 Queen Mary's High School – plans to build a new sports hall on its Sutton Road Playing Fields site. This will enable the school to deliver a full PE curriculum, which it is struggling with at the moment due to lack of facilities.
- 3.6 Get On Track - Caldmoreaccord are supporting The Dame Kelly Holmes Trust's Get On Track programme which creates stepping stones for disadvantaged young people (aged 16-25) to move towards employment, training, education, volunteering and sports participation. They will be offering opportunities for identified young people from across Walsall South to take part.
- 3.7 Chuckery Primary school – have created a mural to warn drivers they are travelling near the school on Lincoln Road, Chuckery. This is part of the Pocket Places project which has been part funded by Walsall South Area Partnership. The mural is a temporary measure but the school proposes to install a more permanent display in the future. As part of the project the school will be decorating some temporary street planters to be used at future Pocket Places street events.
- 3.8 Big Centre TV, Walsall Studio School – as part of the media school, students at the Goldmine Centre will be working in partnership with TriCaster. This will give students the opportunity to experience a wide range of roles; from production to presentation. The station will go on air from Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February.
- 3.9 Joseph Leckie Academy, Delves – has been awarded £3.4 million to build a new teaching block with work starting in April. The new build will include 21 classrooms and will hopefully be finished by end of March 2016. The campaign to improve the buildings at the school started 2005 when the pupils at the school sent ministers a DVD to show how great their needs for improvements were.

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

- 4.1 Apprenticeship opportunities – Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust runs a well established apprentice scheme for young people to help them access a career in the NHS. The Team who runs this scheme has recently won an award for their scheme at the Health Education West Midlands Regional NHS Apprenticeship Awards.
- 4.2 Chamberlin & Hill, Chuckery – has been awarded a new £20 million contract covering the next 8 years, starting in January 2015. The contract will replace a number of completed programmes that were based at the Chuckery Road Foundry. This contract will help secure existing jobs at the Chuckery site
- 4.3 The Employment Growth Team at Walsall Council - are working with local firms to offer support and ensure business leaders are kept informed as the Darlaston Strategic Development project progresses including the development of the IMI Copper Works site in Alumwell. For more information visit the website [www.Walsall.com](http://www.Walsall.com)
- 4.4 The My Future project – which has been funded by Walsall South Area partnership and supported by Walsall South Youth Services has been well received by the young people taking part. One young person from the project has received two university offers, another young person has gained a college place and a third young person has found part-time work. Another three young people from the project have now gained the confidence to be actively seeking work.
- 4.5 Free Food Safety Workshop – Walsall Council is offering to help food businesses in Caldmore and Palfrey improve hygiene standards and their Food Hygiene Ratings. The workshop will take place Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 1:00 to 4:00pm at Palfrey Community Association. The workshop will be delivered by Mr Saleh Ahmed, who is a restaurateur and food safety trainer. An interpreter will be available to help Food Business Operators who don't speak English. For more information and to book a place contact Food Safety [foodsafety@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:foodsafety@walsall.gov.uk) or tel: 01922 653007.



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

- 5.1 Wildflower planting – Walsall Friends of the Earth and Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust members have planted wildflowers in a garden at the rear of Belle Vue car park at the back of the Manor Hospital. A team of 8 volunteers planted seeds and root stock plants which are hoped to brighten up the area and attract Bees to help pollination. This project was inspired by the similar one carried out in Walsall Arboretum.
- 5.2 Physical Activity – Lifestyle Services Team offer a variety of services across Walsall South including smoking cessation, exercise sessions and healthy diet advice. For more information please visit their website [www.lifestyle.walsallhealthcare.nhs.uk/lifestyle-services.aspx](http://www.lifestyle.walsallhealthcare.nhs.uk/lifestyle-services.aspx) or phone the team on 01922 444044
- 5.3 Public Health flu vaccine pilot – is being supported by Joseph Leckie Academy. Fluenz is a nasal spray which offers some protection against the flu virus and has been offered to Year 7 and Year 8 pupils. For more information please visit [www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/child-flu-vaccine.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/child-flu-vaccine.aspx)
- 5.4 Bob's Fast Foods, Caldmore - has been recognised for a Health Switch Award they are only the 2<sup>nd</sup> business in the borough to achieve this prestigious award. One of the staff members changed his own diet and lost 3 stones in weight inspiring a change to more healthy options on the takeaways menu.
- 5.5 New Migrant support group, Chuckery – at Innovation Walsall, Box Street starting 27<sup>th</sup> January 2:00 -3:30pm. The purpose of the group is to provide support and advice. For more information please contact [Lourenzita.Haye@dwmh.nhs.uk](mailto:Lourenzita.Haye@dwmh.nhs.uk) Community Development Worker telephone 07766252782 or 01384 366 517.
- 5.6 Walsall Manor Hospital, Pleck – due to the pressures on A & E various arrangements have been made including cancelling some planned surgery, a review of outpatient clinics and scaling back in-house training. The Community Nursing teams are working in the community to help avoid hospital admittances. The Hospital is working closely with Walsall Council and Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group to open the new 30 bedded ward which has received additional funding from the Department of health to help relive capacity pressures. The Hospital is asking the community to try to seek alternative medical support if at all possible to help reduce A & E admissions.
- 5.7 Men's support group, Chuckery - at Innovation Walsall, Box Street starting 21st January 2:00 -3:30pm. The purpose of the group is to provide support and advice for men suffering from anxiety, stress and other mental health concerns.

For more information please contact [Lourenzita.Haye@dwmh.nhs.uk](mailto:Lourenzita.Haye@dwmh.nhs.uk)  
Community Development Worker telephone 07766252782 or 01384 366 517.

- 5.8 Mind Matters Cafe, Lichfield Street – has been set up to support older people and their families living with Mental Health problems. The group meets the fourth Wednesday of every month 10:30 to 12:30pm. The group is part of the Pathways for Life service provided by Walsall Age UK and Caldmoreaccord which is jointly funded by the Walsall Council and NHS Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group.
- 5.9 eXhilar8 MultiSports Clubs for People with Disabilities – for more information on this years programme of events taking place at Walsall Gala Baths, please contact the Sports Development Team [sportsdev@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:sportsdev@walsall.gov.uk) 01922 65808.
- 5.10 Walsall Gala Baths – has completed its refurbishment of the fitness suite and is now providing a new cycling studio. The improvements are of the Go!Fitness programme for more information please contact the Sports Development Team [sportsdev@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:sportsdev@walsall.gov.uk) 01922 65808
- 5.11 New Gym, Walsall Town Centre – fitness chain Sweat and Tesco's have joined forces to offer gym facilities as part of Tesco's St Paul's Street building. For more information please visit the website [www.sweatunion.com](http://www.sweatunion.com)

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