

**Report to Walsall South Area Panel**  
**10 December, 2013**  
**Funding Report**

**1. Context**

- 1.1 Following the change to the Council's Constitution, Area Panels now have the responsibility for approving any project funding applications that are received through Area Partnerships.
- 1.2 This report sets out any project applications that have been carried forward from the previous financial year, projects that have already been approved (through the previous process of Area Managers approving, in consultation with the Area Chair and Vice Chair and relevant Ward Councillors), projects that have been previously considered and approved by previous Area Panels and those projects that are being put forward for consideration by the Area Panel (attached at Appendix 1).
- 1.3 Any project applications received by the Area Partnership team, will be assessed against a set of criteria (already presented to the Area Panel at an earlier Area Panel), before being put forward to this Area Panel for consideration. Only valid applications that fulfil the criteria will be put to the Panel for decision.
- 1.4 Any projects that do not meet the criteria will be referred back to the project applicant for further information or a re-submission, or, in some cases rejection, if they do not meet the priorities within the Area Plan.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Area Panel is requested to consider the summarised project applications, set out in Appendix 1 (attached).

**3. Carried Forward Projects**

- 3.1 Below are projects that were approved in financial year 2012/13, but, for various reasons, were not completed in that financial year, therefore, a request has been approved to carry forward these funds for projects to be completed during this financial year:

Project	Description	Allocated funding	Match funding	Workstream	Ward
<b>Footpath reconstruction</b>	Removal of existing rights of way footpath surface that runs from Selborne Street to Lime Street. Introduce new drainage channels and reconstruction of new tarmac surface.	£6700	£6700 from Public Rights of Way	Improving roads maintenance and traffic flow  Cleaner, greener and tidier neighbourhoods	

4. Projects approved prior to the change in the approval process by Council on 22 May 2013.

4.1 The following projects have already been approved prior to the change in the approval process by Council on 22 May, 2013 and are in progress.

Project	Description	Allocated funding	Match funding	Workstream	Ward
<b>Bully Be Aware Programme</b>	To create an awareness of bullying in youth provision and respond with a youth led Anti Bully Charter. Young people pledging their commitment to ant bully behaviour and the promotion of equality across Walsall South Area	£909.10	£200 from Myplace  £90 from IYPSS for staffing	Healthy Lifestyles	All
<b>Alternative Outdoor Activities for Young People</b>	10 young people will take part in a range of positive activities over summer holidays to encourage team building.	£271	£1500 from IYPSS	Tackling ASB and crime  Healthy Lifestyles	All
<b>Young Women's Only Farming Days</b>	Two day farming experience for young women only to explore farming tasks and experience firsthand how young women can break into this type of workplace.	£800	£1500 from IYPSS	Tackling ASB and crime  Healthy Lifestyles  Improve job prospects and employability	All
<b>Music Project</b>	Summer programme of music identified by young people as an important area of interest. Focussed of lyric writing challenge perceptions of young people and give them an avenue to express their feeling and thoughts.	£950	£1500 from IYPSS	Tackling ASB and crime  Healthy Lifestyles  Improve educational attainment	All

<b>Walsall Get Active</b>	Website to promote all activities from all organisations taking place across the Walsall borough which is easily accessible by residents.	£250	£250 from other 5 Area Partnership Areas	Healthy Lifestyles	All
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4.2 The following project(s) were approved by the Panel at their meeting held on 2 July, 2013 and Special meeting held on 18 July 2013

<b>Caledon St / Rochford Security Improvements</b>	To reduce instances of crime, ASB, prostitution, drugs and fear of crime to the surrounding properties through the installation of a pedestrian gate, vehicle gate and fencing.	£950	£950 from Bovis Homes	Tackling ASB and crime  Remove the impact of sex workers and drug dealers	Pleck
<b>AOG Saddlers Pitch Fees</b>	Improving men's health 16+ (35 to 50 members) the group is struggling with upfront costs and have asked for our help to make a one off payment to cover these costs to then enable the group to be self sustaining .	£363.20	None	Healthy Lifestyles	All
<b>Environment Day – Walsall Arboretum</b>	Environment Day event to be held in Arboretum to promote environmental awareness including recycling, enforcement, litter picks, country crafts and allotments. Attractions needed such as Reach Up and Move in order to attract young people to the event.	£552.00	None	Cleaner and Tidier Neighbourhoods	All

<b>Extension of Existing Car Park at Butts Primary School</b>	<p>Due to town centre parking, Butts surrounding area is congested with parked vehicles this has been an ongoing community issue for sometime with 150 residents attending a community meeting to raise their concerns. The project is trying to create off-street parking to free up more spaces for local residents. The parking will be for Staff, parents and visitors to the school, local residents would benefit too as less staff would need to park in the surrounding area</p>	<p>£5500</p>	<p>£1000 from Walsall Housing Group £10,000 from Butts Primary School</p>	<p>Improving Traffic Flow and road maintenance</p>	<p>St Matthew's</p>
<b>Walsall Community Chaplaincy project</b>	<p>Gym project- 40% to bring a sense of challenge and achievement leading to an atmosphere where ex-offenders are prepared to listen to the trained tutor. 60% reflective group discussion addressing issues of negative impact that criminal behaviour has imposed on family and lifestyle. To reduce the likelihood of those who take part in this program of continuing in criminal activity- beneficiaries' approx 9 attendees and connected family members plus savings to wider community if they stop reoffending. Seeking funding to enable the project to run till the end of the financial year to enable other funding sources to be secured.</p>	<p>£2260.80</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Tackling ASB &amp; Crime  Reducing the impact of drug dealers  Healthier Lifestyles</p>	<p>All</p>

<b>Smart Sculptures 4 Teenagers</b>	<p>To engage with teenagers to alleviate the boredom of the summer period, thereby making a positive impact on the community and levels of crime involving young people in Walsall. To encourage more teenagers to get into reading habit and to boost literacy levels. To encourage young people to become library advocates and to improve teenage membership this is traditionally low.</p> <p>Central Library (Walsall South teenage residents) Walsall South Young People have expressed an interest in this project which will be used as a hook to get them into the Library to help facilitate the discussions on reading habits and will be supported by IYPSS staff.</p>	£1825	£440 from Library Services	<p>Improve Educational Attainment levels</p> <p>Tackling ASB &amp; Crime</p>	All
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4.3 The following projects were approved under delegated authority, granted to the Area Manager by the Area Panel, in consultation with the Area Chair and Vice Chair and relevant Ward Councillors ahead of the November 2013 Panel.

<b>Domehawk Deployment</b>	<p>To fund deployment of DH camera following incidents of flytipping in the Pleck Ward</p>	£195	None	Tackling Crime and ASB	Pleck
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4.4 The following project(s) were approved by the Panel at their meeting held on 3 October 2013.

<b>Domehawk Deployments</b>	To fund deployment of DH in areas identified through the tasking meeting to prevent and investigate incidents of ASB. Also to cover costs of repair and maintenance if required.	£1000	N/A	Tackling crime and ASB	All
<b>Promotion of local partner activity and advice.</b>	Print and design costs for newsletters and supporting information produced to support Area Partnership priorities and initiatives.	£2000	N/A	All	All
<b>Engaging Dads to be, Dads, Male Carers</b>	Engage and support dads and male carers to access services. Help to eliminate the barriers this cliental group face and empower the dads by giving them the relevant knowledge to help them make informed choices in regard to parenting. Develop the self esteem and confidence of dads. The dads will have an opportunity to make new friends.	£200	5 hours per month of volunteer time	Healthy Lifestyles and Improving Educational Attainment	Palfrey

## 5. De-committed Funding

5.1 Funding has been de-committed for the following project(s) since the meeting held on 3 October 2013.

Project	Description	Allocated funding	Ward	Reason
<b>AOG Saddlers Pitch Fees</b>	Improving men's health 16+ (35 to 50 members) the group is struggling with upfront costs and have asked for our help to make a one off payment to cover these costs to then enable the group to be self sustaining .	£363.20	All	Grant Agreement not returned
<b>Smart Sculptures 4 Teenagers</b>	<p>To engage with teenagers to alleviate the boredom of the summer period, thereby making a positive impact on the community and levels of crime involving young people in Walsall. To encourage more teenagers to get into reading habit and to boost literacy levels. To encourage young people to become library advocates and to improve teenage membership this is traditionally low.</p> <p>Central Library (Walsall South teenage residents) Walsall South Young People have expressed an interest in this project which will be used as a hook to get them into the Library to help facilitate the discussions on reading habits and will be supported by IYPSS staff.</p>	£1825	All	Grant Agreement not returned

5.1 This leaves a total of **£24,162.10** for the Area Panel to approve project applications

## **6. Project Applications for Approval**

- 6.1 Attached at Appendix 1 are the summarised project applications deemed valid against Area Partnership funding criteria and put forward to the Area Panel for consideration.
- 6.2 The total proposed projects in Appendix 1 for the panels 'consideration is **£38,248.00**
- 6.3 If the projects presented at Appendix 1 are approved, this will leave a deficit of **£14,085.90** for the remainder of the financial year.

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## Appendix 1

Project	Description	Organisation	Project Timescales	Funding Requested	Match Funding	Workstream	Ward(s)
<b>Tackling Diabetes with Lifestyle Changes</b>	To provide a programme of motivational, awareness and healthy eating activities that address health related issues linked to mental health, obesity and diabetes which are prevalent in the locality. The project will engage women affected or susceptible to the conditions by offering a holistic educational programme.	Aaina Community Hub	January 2014 to March 2014	£2690	£1000 – Admin time and volunteer support	Healthy Lifestyles	Palfrey & St Matthews
<b>Security Improvements to Brace Street</b>	To reduce crime and ASB specific to the area of access to the rear of properties in Brace Street and Caldmore Road	Walsall Council, Safer Walsall Partnership	January 2014 – February 2014	£200	£355 – Local Businesses	Tackling Crime & ASB  Remove the Impact of Sex Workers and Drug Dealers	St Matthews

<p><b>The Chuckery – Pocket Places for People</b></p>	<p>Pocket Places aims to focus on urban areas and reclaim a series of ‘pocket places’ for people to re-knit the social and physical fabric of the community. By engaging with the community, the project will identify areas of concern for the community and match these with the best solutions.</p>	<p>Walsall Council, Road Safety and Sustainable Travel</p>	<p>December 2013 – March 2015</p>	<p>£10,000</p>	<p>£112,000 – People’s Health Trust  £30,000 – Walsall Council Revenue Funding  £20,000 – Walsall Council Capital Funding</p>	<p>Creating Cleaner and Tidier Neighbourhoods  Improving Roads and Maintenance and Traffic Flow</p>	<p>Paddock &amp; St Matthews</p>
<p><b>St Michael's Car Park</b></p>	<p>This location has been raised as a concern by residents, Neighbourhood Watch group, businesses and Caldmore Traders Association. Due to unsightly surface with raised tree roots, broken path, damaged drainage and food waste from Pigeon feeding. Extension of the existing car park to create a DDA compliant access to Caldmore Road shops. Removal of three trees with their roots and the removal of</p>	<p>Walsall Council, Engineering and Transportation</p>	<p>December 2013 - March 2014</p>	<p>£4,240</p>	<p>£4550 - Walsall Council, Neighbourhood Services</p>	<p>Creating Cleaner and Tidier Neighbourhoods  Improving Roads and Maintenance and Traffic Flow</p>	<p>St Matthews</p>

	associated soft landscaped area. Replacement trees will be provided in the neighbourhood with consultation with the community.						
<b>Woodland Learning Garden Path Restoration</b>	Resurfacing of central pathway through Woodland Wildlife Learning Garden (a facility created and run by volunteers).	Walsall Arboretum User Group	December 2013 - March 2014	£1,648	£500	Improving Roads and Maintenance and Traffic Flow Healthy Lifestyles	All
<b>Protecting the Victims of Burglary</b>	Aim to supply victims of burglary and shed breaks with items that will enhance the security of their home in order to prevent further crimes. This is required as between 01/11/12 and 01/11/13 there were 278 incidents of burglary in our area.	West Midlands Police	January 2014 - July 2014	£2,470	None	Tackling Crime & ASB	All

<p><b>Youth Leadership Development Project</b></p>	<p>To facilitate 50 young people from the community to develop and enhance their leadership skills so that they become good role models and are able to play a more effective and constructive role in their communities. The project will be a structured programme of nine weekend residential visits with input from experienced trainers and youth workers from the local community. The trained Youth Leaders will connect with the local community organisations so that they can be engaged in on-going community issues and projects.</p>	<p>UKIM (UK Islamic Mission)</p>	<p>January 2014 - to December 2014</p> <p>(Funding up to 31March 2014 can only be approved within this financial year)</p>	<p>£17,000</p>	<p>£9000 from participants</p> <p>£5000 - UKIM</p> <p>Volunteer time from most trainers and organisers</p>	<p>Tackling Crime &amp; ASB</p> <p>Improving Job Prospects and employability</p> <p>Improve Educational Attainment levels</p>	<p>All</p>
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## Appendix A - Chuckery – Pocket Places for People

### Background

Over the past few years Walsall has benefitted from a number of schemes working in partnership with Sustrans (one of the leading UK charities supporting sustainable travel). The most recent opportunity has culminated in a joint bid for funding from the People's Health Trust (PHT) to develop a scheme meeting specific criteria.

The scheme had to meet specific criteria as set out below:

#### Essential:

- Within one of the People's Health Trust target areas;
- A supportive local authority, able to provide required match funding to the project, with a highways dept. willing to trial temporary road space reallocation schemes;

#### Location criteria:

- A road that creates a divisive impact on communities (and/or walking and cycling routes) which would benefit from traffic calming and rejuvenation;
- A street/corridor with available space for reclamation, (including the carriageway but also the wider streetscape);
- A supportive community, keen for change;
- Supportive local traders, ideally with the *potential* to develop 'active frontage', (ie seats and tables outside their business);
- Potential for walking, cycling and public transport use in the area, and a potential for modal shift (i.e. is there links to National Cycle Network (NCN) nearby or in development? Are walking and cycling levels already very high?);
- Within one of the 25% most deprived areas (according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation);

#### Desirable:

- A mixed use street/corridor, with residential, retail and other community facilities;

A number of areas were considered using this criteria and The Chuckery was identified as being the best fit;

The Chuckery is situated within an area that falls into the lowest 25% IMD. The outline proposal targets an area in The Chuckery, bounded by Lincoln Road, Beacon Street, Chuckery Road and Tantarra Street. The area is a mixed use area including residential, a primary school, local small businesses and a large scale employer Chamberlain & Hill which is a foundry. This mix provides a unique opportunity to try to address a number of road safety issues, parking issues and conflicts that exist when using the highway network through the area. There is also further potential to improve sustainable transport links from the area via improved connectivity to NCN 5, public transport corridors and Walsall Town Centre; The Chuckery lies within Walsall's Ring-road which is seen as a barrier to increasing sustainable travel levels locally. Due to the nature of business within the area modal shift could be encouraged through active travel planning while an improved leisure offer could be promoted by providing safer links to the Arboretum and Rushall canal further afield. Rushall canal improves the potential for increased participation in cycling and walking as it links directly to

Aldridge, NCN Route 5 and Sandwell Valley. This approach also builds on the recent Black Country approach which seeks to reinvigorate the part that canals can play in supporting increased sustainable travel. Cycling levels in Walsall are still relatively low at around 1.8% of all journeys. A recent household survey revealed half of Walsall's cycle trips are home-bound, followed by trips to usual work place (25%), education (17%) and leisure/recreation (8%). About 40% of the trips are within half a mile, another 10% within a mile. By focussing on a community and local stakeholders, there is potential to greatly increase these cycling levels with some simple, small-scale changes.

To support the bid Walsall Council had to identify match funding of £60,000 and if successful would benefit from a further £112,000 grant to deliver the programme. The bid was approved during September 2013 and the funding award was granted.

## **The Project**

Pocket Places for People is a relatively new project led by Sustrans, inspired by low-cost street reclamation projects in New York City. This innovative idea seeks to focus on an urban corridor and will support local communities in reclaiming a series of 'pocket places' along it, to help re-knit the social and physical fabric of their area. These pocket places will initially be temporary, to try out ideas, but with a view towards developing more permanent interventions where appropriate. This might include placing planters; benches or pop-up street cafes in otherwise isolated forgotten spaces, such as traffic islands or shop frontages, or provide community facilities such as bike fixing or growing food.

During 2012 Sustrans has piloted this approach in 4 locations: Derby, Reading, Southend and Southwark (Peckham). Further funding has now been secured to extend this to an additional 5 areas, including Walsall. This project will be led by a Project Officer employed by Sustrans (to be recruited in early 2014) and will run for 18 months, engaging with local communities and working with them to organise events and activities to trial various uses of the identified 'pocket places' and working up design proposals for more permanent interventions. In Walsall, this project will be focusing on The Chuckery estate and look to encourage community usage of the local area as well as increase linkage by foot and by bike to the Arboretum and beyond.

The project will deliver the following key activities:

- Project steering group to oversee activity
- Community engagement activities (meetings, workshops, consultations)
- Door-to-door engagement with the immediate community
- Detailed mapping of area identified current issues and challenges
- Design workshops to engage community in developing potential solutions
- Temporary street trials or short-term events
- Pop-up travel advice surgeries
- Planning and evaluation to work-up longer-term proposals
- Community events to celebrate project and focus on legacy
- Monitoring data collected throughout project for reporting and evaluation purposes

The envisaged benefits of this are:

- Local people taking control; increased community capacity and positive involvement in decision-making, leading to improved mental wellbeing among beneficiaries;
- Increased connectivity; transformation of urban corridors to encourage and support social interaction and improved physical access;
- Better street environment; reduced traffic speeds and volume, leading to increased walking & cycling and improved quality of life;

## **Funding**

The bid to PHT was to provide funding of £112,000 plus additional match funding of £30,000 Revenue and £30,000 Capital giving a total project cost of £172,000. Match funding has been identified in support of the bid, however, due to the timescales required to finalise the bid part of the local contribution was based on the indicative support from the Area Partnership and the anticipation of up to a £10,000 contribution to support the project.

Therefore this report supports the formal request for a contribution of up to £10,000 to support the implementation of this scheme. Clearly relating to the financial limitations of the partnership if may be necessary to reduce the contribution to enable the prioritisation of other schemes in the current financial year, therefore I would recommend that a minimum contribution of £7,500 be considered.