

Cabinet – 24 July 2013

Community Safety Plan 2011-14 Year 2 Refresh

Portfolio: Councillor Zahid Ali, Public Health and Protection

Related portfolios: N/A

Service: Community Safety Services

Wards: All

Key decision: No

Forward plan: No

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present to Cabinet the Year 2 refresh of the borough Community Safety Plan 2011 - 14.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Cabinet approves the Year 2 refresh of the borough Community Safety Plan 2011 - 14.

3. Report detail

- 3.1 Building a safer Walsall remains one of the top priorities for all who live and work in Walsall. The Community Safety Plan identifies the key strategic community safety priorities for the borough and indicates how agencies will work in partnership to address them.
- 3.2 The Safer Walsall Partnership (SWP) is required to annually refresh its Community Safety Plan based on the findings of a comprehensive strategic assessment which uses data from across the partnership to provide a detailed analysis of crime and disorder issues in the borough.
- 3.3 The plan details strategic priorities to be adopted by the partnership and will be the key community safety document for the borough linking to other strategic documents and plans. The latest strategic assessment recommended that the strategic priorities identified in the 2011-14 original plan and the subsequent year 1 refresh remain unchanged for a further 12

months and are still required for the partnership to achieve its overall aim of working together for a safer borough: These priorities are as listed below.

Priority 1: Tackle Violent Crime - specific focus on Domestic Abuse, Town Centre Violence and Serious Youth Violence

Priority 2: Tackle Anti-social Behaviour

Priority 3: Address Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

Priority 4: Community – specific focus on Counter Terrorism, Community Cohesion and Public Perceptions

Priority 5: Tackle Serious Acquisitive Crime – specific focus on reducing Domestic Burglary

Priority 6: Reduce re offending – a cross cutting theme across all other priorities

3.4 In addition the assessment also confirms three vulnerable areas within the borough on which the partnership should focus its combined efforts/resources and for which specific plans should continue to be drawn up to tackle issues highlighted within those localities. Delivery against these priorities and identified vulnerable areas will be achieved through a wide range of strategies and delivery plans developed by the council and its partners.

3.5 It is proposed that once approved by Cabinet, the Community Safety Plan will be developed into a more public facing/user friendly document. Initial conversations have taken place with officers from within the Print and Design Department as to the form this will take. Clearly this design work can not progress until the content has been approved and Members are requested to take this into account when considering the way in which the information is currently presented.

3.6 The draft plan was approved by the recently formed Walsall Policing and Crime Board on 9 July 2013.

4. Council priorities

4.1 The Walsall Plan 2013-2016 sets out the top shared priorities for the Borough and provides the vision for Walsall as “**a great place to live, learn, work and invest**“. It details the shared priorities and ambitions for the Borough between key agencies from the public, private and voluntary sector who seek to improve the quality of life experienced in this part of the Black Country. It also sets out in overview the arrangements for getting there. In order to achieve this shared vision the plan sets out four high level priorities which are reflected in the Council's Corporate Plan.

1. Supporting business to thrive and supporting local people into work.

- 2. Improving health including well being and independence for older people**
- 3. Creating Safe, Sustainable and Inclusive Communities**
- 4. Improving Safeguarding, Learning and the Life Chances for Children and Young People.**

The Safer Walsall Partnership Board is responsible for the delivery of the Community Safety Plan and the thematic lead for the Creating Safe, Sustainable and Inclusive Communities priority. As such it can be seen how delivery of the Community Safety Plan which is the key community safety document for the borough clearly fits within the identified Council priorities and supports overall delivery of The Walsall Plan. In addition whilst the clear focus of the plan is around priority 3 it can be seen how it cross cuts all remaining priorities.

5. Risk management

A significant risk to delivery against the priorities is the on going cuts faced by all public sector agencies and the uncertain economic future. Whilst arguably the cuts have forced some improvements in efficiency and smarter more joined up ways of working there comes a point where further cuts can not be met by further efficiencies and difficult decisions need to be made about service delivery. To date all agencies involved in delivery of the plan have made required savings without any noticeable reduction in front line services. In addition despite a period of austerity the borough has continued to enjoy historically low levels of crime and ASB. If further cuts are made however there may reach a tipping point where further improvements may not be possible in all areas.

In addition economic pressures could result in certain crime types increasing as individuals turn to crime to fund their daily lives or alcohol and other substances as a form of release, both of which could see an increase in criminal activity and threaten delivery of the plan.

Risks associated with delivery against the strategic priorities identified within the plan will be managed by the Walsall Policing and Crime Board and the individual agencies that make up the partnership.

6. Financial implications

Walsall received its last Community Safety Grant allocation directly from the Home Office in early 2012/13, which at £151,719 was half its previous allocation. From 2013/14 all Community Safety Grant funding will be allocated by the recently elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) who is able to use this money to target their identified priorities and support the delivery of their Crime Plans. This year the PCC has passported the funding directly to the Community Safety Partnership for allocation albeit with a 12% reduction and a caveat that a Local Policing and Crime Board be established.

This has been done and funding was allocated by the SWP Board in March 2013. By making efficiency savings and apportioning the 12% reduction across projects previously funded by the Community Safety Grant it has been possible to maintain all the services/initiatives that were previously in place.

It is anticipated that the PCC will adopt a similar approach in 2014/15 but the allocation of funding in future years remains at this stage uncertain. It is however clear that given the current economic and political climate the Community Safety Plan will be delivered in increasingly austere times.

The priorities highlighted within the Community Safety Plan have a strong evidence base and if further cuts are made this same evidential approach will be used to direct available funds and resources to the areas of greatest need. Difficult decisions may still need to be made about reductions in certain services but this will be done based on need and risk. Further efficiencies will also be sought as will new ways of working which will include empowering/utilising our communities and greater use where possible of the third/voluntary sector. The recently formed Walsall Policing and Crime Board now includes community representatives who will have a direct say in the commissioning and delivery of services around community safety.

In addition the plans and strategies detailed within the plan cover a wide range of services provided by the Council and partner agencies with the majority of activity being either mainstream funded or funded via other allocations not directly allocated to community safety. As such even in the current uncertain and challenging world effective delivery against the plan can still continue.

7. Legal implications

Sections 5 to 7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (the 1998 Act), headed "Crime and disorder strategies", require "responsible authorities" to comply with section 6 of the 1998 Act which states that "responsible authorities" shall formulate and implement:

- (a) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
- (b) a strategy for combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area; and
- (c) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area].

By virtue of section 5(1)(a) of the 1998 Act the Council is a "responsible authority".

The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007, as amended, make further provision for the formulation and implementation of such strategies.

The regulations contain a number of steps to be taken by a “strategy group” including the preparation and implementation of a partnership plan based on strategic assessments.

Before the start of each year the strategy group must revise the partnership plan taking into account the strategic assessments prepared by it. Regulation 10 sets out the matters the partnership plan should cover.

Responsible authorities are:

- (1) the council for the area and, where the area is a district and the council is not a unitary authority, the council for the county which includes the district;
- (2) every provider of probation services operating within the area in pursuance of arrangements which provide for it to be a responsible authority for these purposes;
- (3) every chief officer of police any part of whose police area lies within the area;
- (4) every police authority any part of whose police area so lies;
1. every fire and rescue authority any part of whose area so lies;

If the local government area is in England, every primary care trust the whole or any part of whose area so lies.

By completing and annually refreshing its Community Safety Plan based on the findings of a comprehensive Strategic Assessment, Walsall is fulfilling its statutory requirement to do so.

8. Property implications

There are no property implications associated with the draft Community Safety Plan.

9. Health and wellbeing implications

The Walsall Plan has been informed by a range of information/reports including from a health perspective the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and at a national level importantly the Marmot Review, “Fair Society, Healthy Lives.” The Safer Walsall Partnership Board is responsible for the delivery of the Community Safety Plan and is the thematic lead for the Creating Safe, Sustainable and Inclusive Communities priority identified with the Walsall Plan.

As such development and delivery of the Community Safety Plan which is the main community safety document for the borough and details the priorities on

which all agencies will focus their activities supports the identified priorities of the Walsall Plan, It will therefore contribute directly to improvements in health and well being across Walsall. In addition reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and substance abuse can clearly be seen to have a direct impact upon the health and well being of our communities.

10. Staffing implications

The priorities contained within the plan cross cut the agencies that make up Safer Walsall Partnership. Delivery against the priorities will be via mainstream activity and any additional funding that the borough is able to secure, including this year's reduced Community Safety allocation made by the PCC.

11. Equality implications

The benefits of delivery against the plan will apply across the borough of Walsall, although by adopting an evidence based approach more benefit should be felt in areas where identified problems are greatest.

12. Consultation

The plan has been subject to widespread consultation with the agencies that make up Safer Walsall Partnership. It was approved by the Walsall Policing and Crime Board on 9th July 2012. These agencies include Walsall Council, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service, West Midlands Police Authority, Walsall Housing Group, NHS Walsall and Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation.

Background papers

None

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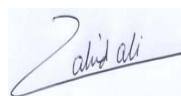
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Jamie Morris
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15 July 2013



Councillor Ali
Portfolio Holder

15 July 2013



SaferWalsall Partnership

working together for a safer borough

DRAFT

**WALSALL
COMMUNITY SAFETY
PLAN 2011 – 2014
Year 2 Refresh
(2013)**

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I am delighted to welcome you to the **SAFER WALSALL PARTNERSHIP 2013/2014 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN**, which forms the basis for Partnership work over the coming year.

The focus of your Partnership continues to be on working together to achieve the best possible outcomes for Walsall people. Our priorities reflect the issues that matter most to you and support the ambition of our 'Walsall Plan to 'Create safe and sustainable communities by reducing levels of crime and providing the right environment for people to live in.'

Over the past year the Partnership has been further enhanced by the addition of our Public Health colleagues, underpinning the clear connection between safe, cohesive communities and the health and well-being of residents.

Indeed, the role of cohesive communities continues to be a vital component in our work if we are to deliver sustainable reductions in all types of crime and re-offending. As individuals, we can all make a valuable contribution to making our borough a safe place to live, work and visit.

Safer Walsall Partnership works for YOU, so it's important you let us know what you think about our work. Are we getting it right? What matters to you? There are many ways you can get involved, some examples of which are at the end of this document.

These are challenging times for us all, particularly within public services. However, the desire and commitment of your Partnership is strong and resolute in working hard TOGETHER to achieve the best possible outcomes for our borough and its people.



Councillor Zahid Ali,
Chair of Safer Walsall Partnership Policing and Crime Board

Safer Walsall Partnership

'Working together for a Safer Borough'

The agencies that make up Safer Walsall Partnership (SWP) are collectively responsible for co-ordinating activity to make Walsall a safer place and increasing the level of community reassurance. SWP brings together Walsall Council, West Midlands Police, the Office of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, Health, Walsall Probation Service, West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service and representatives from the Walsall Housing Partnership, the Chamber of Commerce and other key partner agencies. SWP co-ordinates activity across the borough to improve community safety and increase community reassurance by reducing crime, anti-social behaviour, alcohol and substance misuse and environmental crime. The Safer Walsall Partnership Board is responsible for collectively overseeing the delivery of the Community Safety Plan and co-ordinates the multi-agency activity that is required to deliver against it.

Community Safety Plan Priorities 2011 - 2014

Following an extensive borough-wide strategic assessment that utilised data from a range of partner agencies and extensive stakeholder and resident consultation the partnership identified the following strategic priorities for 2011–2014 which were reflected in the borough Community Safety Plan. The plan details the priorities on which partners are to collectively focus their efforts in order to make Walsall a safer place to live, work and visit.

- Priority 1: Tackle Violent Crime - specific focus on Domestic Abuse, Town Centre Violence and Serious Youth Violence**
- Priority 2: Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour**
- Priority 3: Address Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse**
- Priority 4: Community – specific focus on Counter Terrorism, Community Cohesion and Public Perceptions**
- Priority 5: Tackle Serious Acquisitive Crime – specific focus on reducing Domestic Burglary**
- Priority 6: Reduce re offending – a cross cutting theme across all other priorities**

Walsall is required to refresh its three year Community Safety Plan on an annual basis and this is the second refresh of the 2011-14 plan. Following the first refresh undertaken in 2012/13 the priorities still remain unchanged.

Funding received from the Office of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner supports some of the projects that deliver against these priorities. Despite significant

reductions in the resources available to local agencies, the Partnership has worked hard to protect key areas of work and continually explores new and innovative ways of working together to deliver 'value for money' services to some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

Our Achievements

During 2012 – 13 the Partnership continued to work hard to make Walsall a safer place and by continuing to work with our communities achieved some impressive results.

These results coming at a time of increasing economic hardship when resources were increasingly stretched and it would be reasonable to expect that certain crime types such as acquisitive crime, alcohol and substance misuse and domestic abuse would increase.

Over the period in question Total Recorded Crime fell by a further 15.4% which in real terms means 2807 fewer victims, this being the biggest reduction for any of the Local Policing Units in the West Midlands region. Anti-Social Behaviour fell by over 27% meaning Walsall had 2461 fewer victims. These reductions are in addition to previous substantial year on year reductions that have seen Total Recorded Crime fall by just over 13,500 Offences (47%) since 2002-03 and Anti-Social Behaviour by around 10800 offences (62%) since 2008 -09.

WALSALL				
Crime / Incident Type	2011/12	2012/13	Change	% Change
Total Recorded Crime	18232	15425	-2807	-15.4
Serious Acquisitive Crime	3733	3433	-300	-8.0
Anti Social Behaviour (Police Reported)	9082	6621	-2461	-27.1
Youth Related ASB (Police Reported)	3714	2345	-1369	-36.9
Domestic Burglary	1441	1261	-180	-12.5
Burglary Other Building	1522	1275	-247	-16.2
Criminal Damage	3348	2553	-795	-23.7
Vehicle Crime	1923	1892	-31	-1.6
Violence Against the Person	3396	2861	-535	-15.8
Robbery	388	311	-77	-19.8
Deliberate Primary Fires (WMFS Data)	405	287	-118	-29.1
Deliberate Secondary Fires (WMFS data)	1472	623	-849	-57.7
Drug Offences	628	566	-62	-9.9
Domestic Violence	1177	1071	-106	-9.0
Hate Crime	413	189	-224	-54.2

To achieve these results the partnership has continued to work collectively to target its resources at areas of greatest need, activities undertaken include:

1. Operation Intrusive – A high profile police campaign that targeted burglary, vehicle and violent crime. This involved the specific targeting of known offenders and preventative work which included target hardening and a supporting media/information campaign.

2. The Safer Walsall Partnership Vulnerability Forum – A multi agency forum that that supports the most vulnerable victims of anti-social behaviour and crime and deals with complex cases.
3. Domestic Abuse Commissioning – The continued development of a completely new approach to engaging services to tackle domestic abuse, bringing resources together to be targeted where there is clearly identified need.
4. Substance Misuse -The on going delivery of a range of successful substance misuse treatment services that have delivered above national average results. During 2012–13 Walsall had 143 successful community based detox's, 270 individuals left treatment alcohol free and as a borough we have seen a reduction in specific alcohol based hospital admissions. Up until March 2013 48% (408) individuals left drug treatment in a planned way compared to a national figure of 43% and 16% of individuals successfully completed their treatment journey compared to a national average of 14.8%.
5. Community Cohesion – The commissioning of Stop Hate UK offering 24 hour support to anyone suffering from a hate crime and the establishment of hate crime reporting centres in community venues across the borough. Walsall also enjoyed a range of multicultural events that brought together residents from across the diverse communities of Walsall. These include the Caldmore Village Festival which attracted in excess of 14000 visitors and has a world wide on line following.
6. Walsall Intelligence Network – Multi agency cross cutting delivery groups that exist to support partnership working in Walsall. This includes an analytical and performance function that collates data and intelligence from across the partnership to support and target delivery across all identified priorities.
7. Integrated Offender Management – A joined up approach to offender management coordinated through One Day One Conversation monthly meetings. These multi agency forums ensure that managed offenders are given every opportunity to address their offending behaviour, avoid duplication of effort and provides a greater understanding of the re offending threat posed by an individual. The meeting looks at support and also targeted enforcement for those who fail to engage. The successful implementation of this model means encouragingly that Walsall's re offending rate puts the borough at 11th in the country in terms of reducing reoffending.
8. Situational Interventions - The implementation of a range of situational interventions (including fences, gates and vehicle barriers) that protect vulnerable locations and buildings and reduce the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour.
9. Integrated Young Peoples Support Services (IYPSS) use a tiered approach to deal with referrals for support in Anti- Social Behaviour hot spots, carrying out a comprehensive assessment to establish an appropriate intervention plan which includes as required the use of the Hopper and Cyberbus by the Detached Youth Work Teams. This is work is supported by the pro active targeting of seasonal hot spots and a comprehensive and coordinated holiday activity programme.

Achievements in Your Area



In addition to what is taking place at a borough wide level we understand that people are interested in what is happening in their local area and recognise that the communities of Walsall are diverse and that different areas will have different needs. With this recognition acting as a key driver Walsall established six Area Partnerships in May 2010 and these are now firmly embedded as one of the key delivery mechanisms for partnership activity and a means to work with our communities to identify and resolve issues that are of greatest concern. Locally this approach continues to deliver positively for our communities.

Brownhills, Pelsall Sheffield and Rushall

Brownhills, Pelsall, Sheffield & Rushall				
Crime / Incident Type	2011/12	2012/13	Change	% Change
Total Recorded Crime	1855	1550	-305	-16.4
Serious Acquisitive Crime	388	366	-22	-5.7
Anti Social Behaviour (Police Reported)	888	570	-318	-35.8
Youth Related ASB (Police Reported)	409	222	-187	-45.7
Domestic Burglary	146	133	-13	-8.9
Burglary Other Building	202	162	-40	-19.8
Criminal Damage	383	268	-115	-30.0

Vehicle Crime	231	213	-18	-7.8
Violence Against the Person	320	270	-50	-15.6
Robbery	16	23	7	43.8
Deliberate Primary Fires (WMFS Data)	43	29	-14	-32.6
Deliberate Secondary Fires (WMFS data)	164	54	-110	-67.1
Drug Offences	34	30	-4	-11.8
Domestic Violence	150	122	-28	-18.7
Hate Crime	21	9	-12	-57.1

- Work has been undertaken with the elderly and other vulnerable members of our communities to promote and implement specific initiatives to raise awareness of Bogus Callers and Rogue Traders.
- Work with local police and businesses to implement a local Retail Radio Initiative in Pelsall that's put businesses in direct contact with local police officers and each other allowing them to highlight and address potential crime or anti-social behaviour problems.
- Work with Probations Community Payback to clean up sites that act to attract anti-social behaviour improving their visual appearance and allowing offenders the opportunity to give something back to their communities.

Aldridge and Beacon

Aldridge & Beacon				
Crime/Incident Type	2011/12	2012/13	Change	% Change
Total Recorded Crime	1860	1676	-184	-9.9
Serious Acquisitive Crime	581	542	-39	-6.7
Anti Social Behaviour (Police Reported)	866	622	-244	-28.2
Youth Related ASB (Police Reported)	365	248	-117	-32.1
Domestic Burglary	205	229	24	11.7
Burglary Other Building	155	184	29	18.7
Criminal Damage	315	240	-75	-23.8
Vehicle Crime	346	290	-56	-16.2
Violence Against the Person	285	225	-60	-21.1
Robbery	39	30	-9	-23.1
Deliberate Primary Fires (WMFS Data)	50	35	-15	-30.0
Deliberate Secondary Fires (WMFS data)	113	22	-91	-80.5
Drug Offences	44	39	-5	-11.4
Domestic Violence	108	88	-20	-18.5
Hate Crime	13	8	-5	-38.5

- Over 400 residents from the area have visited the Police Safe House at Brownhills. The visits include talks on both personal and home safety and the option to buy community

safety items at cost price take place at the custom facility which is recognised nationally as an example of best practice. These visits will continue and are supported by Safe House Roadshows in local venues.

- Community and Citizenship Days organised at local primary schools that encourage children to consider their place in society, the impact of their behaviour and the help and support that partner agencies can provide.
- Supported police to promote Car Key Crime awareness and to encourage residents to take action to protect their property against this type of offence.
- Worked with a range of existing local community groups to identify and deal with their community safety concerns and raise awareness of services that are available to support them to deal with their issues.

North Walsall (Bloxwich, Blakenall, Birchills and Leamore)

North Walsall				
Crime/Incident Type	2011/12	2012/13	Change	% Change
Total Recorded Crime	4324	3403	-921	-21.3
Serious Acquisitive Crime	873	680	-193	-22.1
Anti Social Behaviour (Police Reported)	2383	1835	-548	-23.0
Youth Related ASB (Police Reported)	1022	766	-256	-25.0
Domestic Burglary	394	260	-134	-34.0
Burglary Other Building	440	250	-190	-43.2
Criminal Damage	916	710	-206	-22.5
Vehicle Crime	424	367	-57	-13.4
Violence Against the Person	802	635	-167	-20.8
Robbery	60	58	-2	-3.3
Deliberate Primary Fires (WMFS Data)	93	55	-38	-40.9
Deliberate Secondary Fires (WMFS data)	382	232	-150	-39.3
Drug Offences	132	111	-21	-15.9
Domestic Violence	330	291	-39	-11.8
Hate Crime	133	56	-77	-57.9

- Dispersal Orders obtained as part of a multi agency approach to tackle anti-social behaviour and provide reassurance to residents in the Harden and Beechdale Estate areas.
- The use of Proceeds of Crime Funding to employ three youth workers who will specifically target the Blakenall area.
- Fun Park opened in Lister Road providing a purpose built facility for use by young people where they can safely play ball games and engage in other positive activities. This is very much local resource has been well received by the local residents who have taken ownership of the site. It also supports the Dispersal Order obtained on the Beechdale Estate providing a suitable location at which those dispersed can gather.

- Develop and implement a partnership wide action plan to deal with rogue metal dealers and collectors and in doing so protect our communities from the nuisance this activity can cause.

Walsall South (St Matthews, Paddock, Palfrey and Pleck

Walsall South				
Crime/Incident Type	2011/12	2012/13	Change	% Change
Total Recorded Crime	5584	4752	-832	-14.9
Serious Acquisitive Crime	881	851	-30	-3.4
Anti Social Behaviour (Police Reported)	2165	1756	-409	-18.9
Youth Related ASB (Police Reported)	583	425	-158	-27.1
Domestic Burglary	344	291	-53	-15.4
Burglary Other Building	311	339	28	9.0
Criminal Damage	780	570	-210	-26.9
Vehicle Crime	418	451	33	7.9
Violence Against the Person	1248	1029	-219	-17.5
Robbery	124	109	-15	-12.1
Deliberate Primary Fires (WMFS Data)	98	75	-23	-23.5
Deliberate Secondary Fires (WMFS data)	237	96	-141	-59.5
Drug Offences	272	254	-18	-6.6
Domestic Violence	313	271	-42	-13.4
Hate Crime	150	68	-82	-54.7

- Activate Against Hate is a group of young people who with the support of the Councils Active Involvement Team are delivering a number of peer led workshops to promote integration and challenge inappropriate views and beliefs.
- Junior Neighbourhood Watch Groups are being developed in Chuckery and Park Hall Primary Schools and will raise awareness amongst 5 – 10 year olds of key community safety issues.
- Partners are working together to tackle problems caused by on street drinking, utilising the range of tools and powers available and considering all available options.
- Walsall South is leading on pioneering work to tackle on street sex working using a problem solving approach and focusing on the specific needs of the individuals concerned. The aims of the project include reducing on street sex working, protecting our communities and increasing the support for vulnerable sex workers.

Darlaston and Bentley

Darlaston & Bentley				
Crime/Incident Type	2011/12	2012/13	Change	% Change
Total Recorded Crime	1910	1643	-267	-14.0
Serious Acquisitive Crime	447	463	16	3.6
Anti Social Behaviour (Police Reported)	1267	729	-538	-42.5
Youth Related ASB (Police Reported)	624	244	-380	-60.9
Domestic Burglary	139	135	-4	-2.9
Burglary Other Building	132	101	-31	-23.5
Criminal Damage	430	331	-99	-23.0
Vehicle Crime	230	294	64	27.8
Violence Against the Person	316	308	-8	-2.5
Robbery	73	46	-27	-37.0
Deliberate Primary Fires (WMFS Data)	56	42	-14	-25.0
Deliberate Secondary Fires (WMFS data)	267	84	-183	-68.5
Drug Offences	78	49	-29	-37.2
Domestic Violence	122	144	22	18.0
Hate Crime	33	15	-18	-54.5

- Piloted with police and other partners Operation Staysafe, a targeted initiative to pick up and advise vulnerable young people out at night who may cause or become a victim of crime and/or anti-social behaviour.
- Community Safety Newsletters specific to individual communities have been developed and distributed. These contain advice and information on issues specific to that locality and are a useful mechanism to empower and reassure our communities.
- Setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Group in Darlaston North and improved security at anti-social behaviour hotspots to reduce incidents, reassure residents and improve community cohesion.
- Focused activity in Darlaston Town Centre to reduce anti-social behaviour. This brought together partner agencies, local schools and businesses to work together to deal with the problem and included increased diversionary and positive activities for young people.

Willenhall and Short Heath

Willenhall & Short Heath				
Crime/Incident Type	2011/12	2012/13	Change	% Change
Total Recorded Crime	2699	2401	-298	-11.0
Serious Acquisitive Crime	563	531	-32	-5.7
Anti Social Behaviour (Police Reported)	1513	1109	-404	-26.7
Youth Related ASB (Police Reported)	711	440	-271	-38.1
Domestic Burglary	213	213	0	0.0

Burglary Other Building	282	239	-43	-15.2
Criminal Damage	524	434	-90	-17.2
Vehicle Crime	274	277	3	1.1
Violence Against the Person	425	394	-31	-7.3
Robbery	76	45	-31	-40.8
Deliberate Primary Fires (WMFS Data)	65	51	-14	-21.5
Deliberate Secondary Fires (WMFS data)	309	135	-174	-56.3
Drug Offences	68	83	15	22.1
Domestic Violence	154	155	1	0.6
Hate Crime	63	33	-30	-47.6

- Specific work has been undertaken to raise awareness of domestic burglary and in particular the theft of Asian Gold across the diverse communities of Willenhall. This has included the development and distribution of community friendly literature and events specifically targeting key communities.
- The distribution of community safety items to protect vulnerable members of our communities and to increase public reassurance and confidence levels.
- Targeting with partners crime and anti-social behaviour hotspots and adopting a joint approach to deal with identified issues utilising all available remedies. Sites targeted include The Square in New Invention where coordinated activity by a range of agencies and the on going support of the community has seen a marked reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour and in doing so had a real positive impact on local residents and businesses.
- The purchase of hand held CCTV equipment to assist police and partners identify and deal with perpetrators of anti-social behaviour and multi agency anti-social behaviour awareness raising road shows planned for all secondary schools during the summer.

Resident Perceptions

In addition to actual reported figures the perceptions of our residents, how safe they feel and the level of confidence they have in public service providers are important drivers for partnership activity. It is often the case that perceptions do not actually reflect crime trends and that these can be influenced by a wide range of factors in addition to the level of crime or anti-social behaviour that is actually taking place. In Walsall we have two key mechanisms for measuring perceptions and confidence. The Your Place, Your Wellbeing Survey carried out jointly by Walsall Council and NHS Walsall in February to May 2012 and the West Midlands Police Feeling the Difference Survey, the most recent findings come from Wave 33 (December 2012-February 2013). Both surveys consider perceptions, quality of life, confidence and reassurance issues and provide a valuable insight into how residents actually feel about the place in which they live and their relationship with service providers. The following figures and all others reported throughout this plan relating to perceptions are based on the respondents to these surveys.

- One in four residents (24%) still feel that ASB is high in their area.
- 52% of residents are concerned about litter and graffiti

- Two in five (40%) perceive drugs to be a problem in their area.
- 30% perceive drunk or disorderly behaviour and litter lying around to be a problem.
- More than four in five (83%) Walsall residents have confidence in the police
- The majority of Walsall residents (97%) feel safe during the day and night (83%). Feelings of safety after dark have increased by 8% and are above the West Midlands Police Force average.
- 14% of Walsall residents think the level of crime in their neighbourhood has increased over the last 12 months, 74% thought it had remained the same and 11% thought it had decreased
- 47% of Walsall respondents agreed they can influence decisions affecting their neighbourhood
- Three quarters (74%) of residents feel the police are doing a good job
- 65% of Walsall residents agree that people in the neighbourhood pull together to improve the neighbourhood

Our Vision

'Working together for a Safer Borough'

Our Strategic Priorities

The recent strategic assessment has confirmed that the strategic priorities as identified in the original 2011-14 plan and as listed on page 4 are still relevant and should be the focus of community safety activity. In addition the assessment also identifies three vulnerable areas within the borough on which the partnership should focus its combined efforts/resources and for which specific plans should be drawn up to tackle issues highlighted within those localities. These Strategic Priorities and priority areas will now be briefly outlined.

Figures Quoted here are for the period 1/12/2011 – 30/11/2012 compared to 1/12/10 – 30/11/11.

Priority 1: Tackle Violent Crime: specific focus on Domestic Abuse, Town Centre Violence and Serious Youth Violence

Although figures contained within the strategic assessment reveal reductions in police reported Domestic Abuse offences and incidents when compared to the previous year, data from across the range of services dealing with Domestic Abuse suggests that across other agencies Domestic Abuse reports are in fact increasing such that the overall picture of scale and trajectory in Walsall is unclear. It is possible that victims are turning to other support services rather than reporting directly to the police and of note that this remains an underreported offence. Indeed between 1st April 2012 and 30th June 2013 there has been a 19% increase in Domestic Abuse offences reported to the police compared to the previous year. 2012 saw the development of commissioning arrangements around Domestic Abuse and stronger links with the Walsall Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards. Future work will see the development of a single pathway for Domestic Abuse and a shared data base to facilitate a greater understanding of the scale of the problem.

Between 1 December 2011 and 30 November 2012 Violence against the person offences Walsall Town Centre increased by nearly 13% although this is on the back of marked reductions in previous years and Walsall remains a safe place to visit. Activities to reduce Town Centre Violence and in particular those related to the night time economy have included the continuation of Operation Be Safe (which sees an increase in police presence at weekends) and ongoing patrols by Street Pastors who are able to offer support for vulnerable people (including those who are intoxicated) and victims who have suffered minor injuries. Significantly and as a result of these continued efforts between 1st April 2012 and 30th June 2013 Walsall has seen a 27% reduction in Town Centre Violence with Injury when compared to the previous year. This is a new broader measure adopted by the police as of 1st April 2013.

Serious youth violence offences are very low in Walsall and experienced a small reduction to 16 offences over the 12 month period covered by the Strategic Assessment. In addition between 1st April 2012 and 30th June 2013 Walsall experienced a further 12% reduction in Serious Youth (0 – 18) Violence offences.

Priority 2: Tackle Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)

Tackling anti-social behaviour remains a priority for the communities of Walsall and consistently comes out as an area of concern. There is clear link between the satisfaction with public services and the level of perceived ASB in an area. Whilst positively analysis of police recorded ASB incidents illustrates a further marked reduction it is also apparent that less than half of reports made are to the police. ASB covers a wide range of behaviours and can be reported to a number of agencies who will often use different definitions and categories. This is an issue common across the country making it difficult to get a clear picture of the problem.

The partnership continues to work collectively to tackle this key issue and activities include monthly multi agency tasking documents highlighting reoccurring issues that require a partnership response, a monthly Vulnerability and Problem Solving Forum that supports the most vulnerable victims and looks at complex issues and a partnership wide review of how agencies can work more effectively together to tackle ASB which will include work on common definitions and categories.

Priority 3: Address Harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

Figures contained within the Strategic Assessment illustrate a 10% reduction in drug offences between 2011/12 and 2012/13. Whilst enforcement activity around catch and convict will have had a direct impact upon this, access to a wide range of rehabilitation and treatment services that support and sit alongside and support this approach is also key to reducing the long term impact of substance misuse.

Drug and alcohol treatment services are becoming increasingly recovery focussed with success being measured in terms of positive outcomes rather than just numbers in treatment, as such adding a more qualitative element to performance measurement. Alongside the agenda for recovery a new holistic approach to treatment has also emerged. Effective partnerships with housing, employment, education and other wrap around services continue to develop to deal with the spectrum of issues a substance misuser may face and in doing so increase the potential for effective and longer term recovery. In addition the opportunity to attend residential rehabilitation has increased with a more robust assessment process targeting this intensive intervention at those who are more likely to benefit. We have also seen a concerted effort to increase community based detoxification.

Priority 4: Community – specific focus on Counter Terrorism, Community Cohesion and Public Perceptions

Walsall continues to experience low levels of extremist activity when compared with other areas of the country. Globally terrorism continues to diversify with the UK and its allies facing a greater range of threats from more areas across the world and is something on which all community safety partnerships are focussed. This means that we can not be complacent in our approach and must continue our efforts to identify and deal robustly with

any threats to cohesion. Where issues do arise these are dealt with through a strong partnership approach that coordinates both proactive and reactive action. We will also continue to promote and celebrate the rich and varied cultures that coexist harmoniously in the borough and develop an approach to cohesion that focuses on the importance of citizenship and individual civic responsibilities. Within Walsall a great deal of positive work is already undertaken to develop strong, cohesive links across our diverse communities and we need to support our communities to ensure that this will continue.

Priority 5: Tackle Serious Acquisitive Crime – specific focus on reducing Domestic Burglary

Serious Acquisitive crime includes vehicle crime, domestic burglary and robbery offences and fell by 14% over the 12 month period. All three crime types fell and in real terms this meant that there were 115 fewer burglaries, 280 fewer incidences of vehicle crime and 185 fewer robbery offences. Various partner activities in addition to robust and targeted policing have contributed to these reductions. Examples of these include a number of targeted publicity campaigns using a wide range of media channels including the more widespread use of social media including Facebook and Twitter, the re launch of the Brownhills Security Show Home and the rebranding and re launch of Operation Doorstop designed to protect the most vulnerable members of our communities from bogus callers and distraction burglaries.

Recently domestic burglary has seen a small spike, however this follows significant previous reductions and still means that across the entire borough of Walsall there are fewer than 4 offences on average per day.

Priority 6: Reduce re offending – a cross cutting theme across all other priorities

It is an unfortunate fact that many offenders will continue to commit crime even after a period spent in prison or having received some other form of court order and that a small number of hard core offenders will have a disproportionate effect on the level of crime within the borough. Re offending will have an impact upon all of the priorities previously outlined and incurs a cost both in terms of the financial impact of dealing with these individuals and their crimes and the impact their behaviour has on our communities.

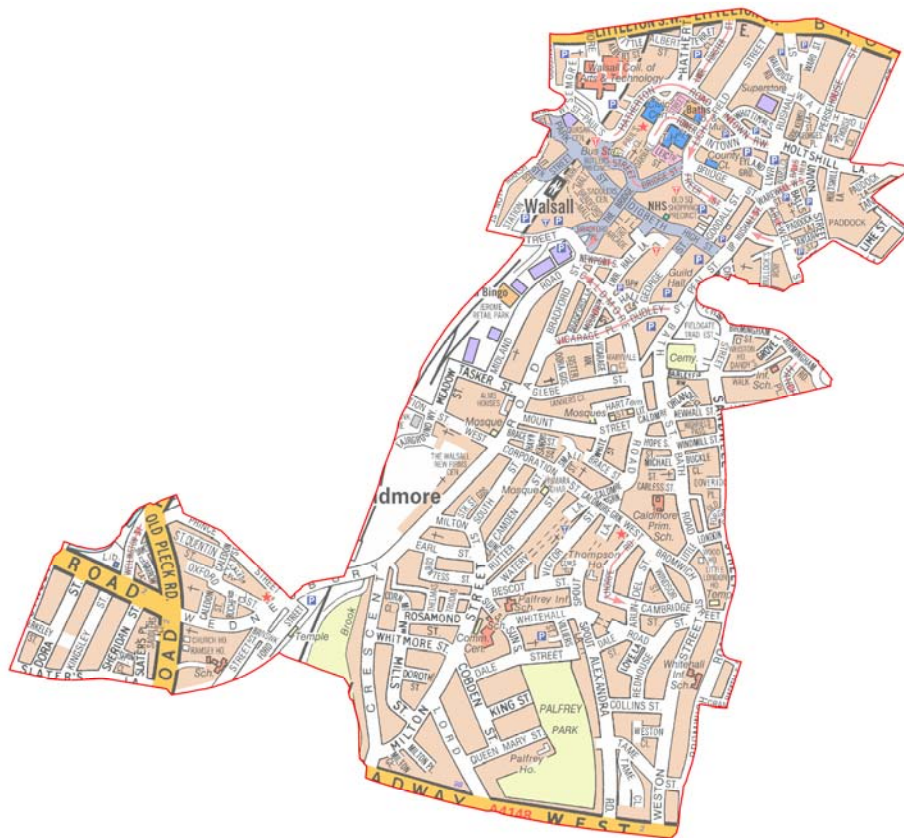
Through the Walsall Integrated Offender Management Programme partners work together to reduce crime and reoffending by addressing the key issues facing perpetrators and their families. This is achieved by supporting the greater coordination of agencies and the programmes they deliver to manage offenders and ensure that individuals do not fall through the gaps. This work takes a holistic approach seeking to address the issues that contribute to offending behaviour and also to target and convict those whose behaviour does not change. The positive work outlined under priority 5 (alcohol and drug misuse) is clearly linked to and supports this work.

Priority Areas

The current three priority areas have been identified by looking at a range of data that when taken together highlighted specific locations that had a greater number of community safety concerns and which would benefit from a more targeted partner response. In a time when

public sector resources are under increasing pressure using intelligence to direct them to where they are most needed ensures the greatest benefit for our communities.

Walsall Town Centre, Palfrey and Pleck Priority Area



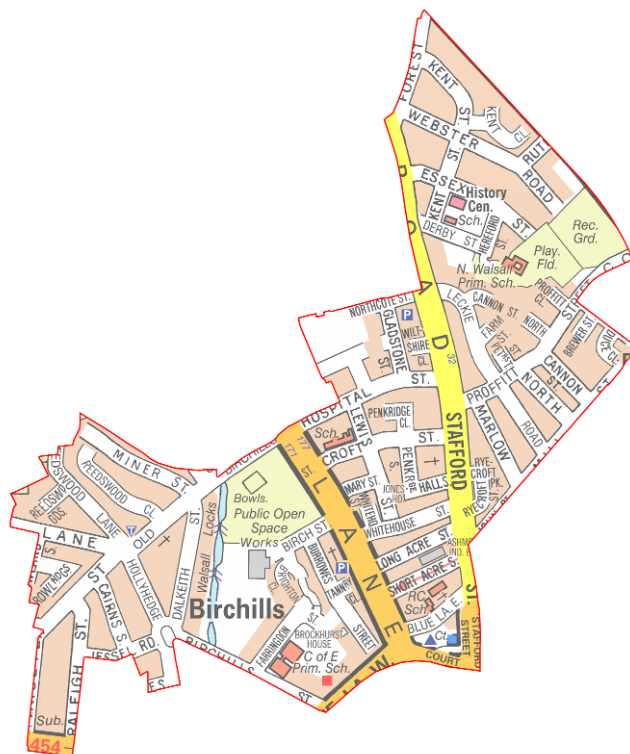
This area is home to 17,569 of Walsall's 269,323 residents and is very diverse in terms of its population. It is also home to the boroughs main shopping and night time economy venues attracting a large number of additional visitors into the area. The area accounts for 16% of all crime across the borough and is an identified priority location for both Total Recorded Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour. Encouragingly concentrated partner activity to date has seen overall offending fall by 17% when compared to the previous 12 month period and 67% of residents are satisfied with the police which is significantly above the average for the rest of the borough. Not surprisingly given the large number of shops within the area shoplifting accounts for 21% of offences and residents reported that their main concerns were around burglaries followed by people using or dealing drugs.

Bloxwich Priority Area



Some 15,451 residents live within the Bloxwich Priority Area, the majority of which are White British, this area being less ethnically diverse than many other areas of the borough. The area is a borough priority for Vehicle Crime and Burglary Other Building and accounts for 7% of all offences on the borough although overall levels of offending have decreased by 22% when compared with the previous 12 months. Criminal Damage, shoplifting, theft and assault offences account for the highest proportion of offences all of which seen significant decreases over a 12 month period. This area also accounts for 9% of police reported ASB. 57% of residents in the area are satisfied with the area as a place to live which is below the borough average whilst 63% report that they are satisfied with the police. Teenagers hanging around, people using or dealing drugs and speeding were highlighted by residents as being main areas of concern whilst improvements in street cleanliness, crime levels and activities for teenagers were highlighted specifically as areas needing significant improvement.

Birchills Priority Area



This area is home to 7,231 residents and has an ethnically diverse population with diversity levels above the borough average. This locality along with Walsall Town Centre/Palfrey/Pleck has the highest calls for service from the West Midlands Police outside of city centres and is an identified hot spot for Total Recorded Crime. The area accounts for 3% of all offences on the borough, although encouragingly overall levels of crime fell by 18% when compared to the previous 12 months. Criminal Damage, Assault and Burglary Dwellings account for the largest number of offences and have all seen reductions on the preceding 12 months. The area accounts for 4% of police reported ASB and residents reported that the top crime and ASB issues for them were people using and dealing drugs, speeding, teenagers hanging around and burglaries. Residents reported below average satisfaction with the area as a place to live and identified that issues impacting on their area as a place to live included clean streets, crime levels and activities for teenagers.

Although the three identified Priority Areas have longer term issues that need to be addressed and are seen as being more vulnerable they have all already seen considerable partnership activity that has led to marked reductions in crime and ASB levels. Agencies working closely with communities have made considerable improvements in these locations and the Priority Area status will ensure that this planned and targeted multi agency response continues.

Delivery of the priorities contained within the Community Safety Plan is the responsibility of the Safer Walsall Partnership Board and will be achieved within the partnership working model adopted by Walsall.

The Walsall Plan

The Walsall Plan 2013-2016 sets out the top shared priorities for the Borough and provides the vision for Walsall as **“a great place to live, learn, work and invest”**. It details the shared priorities and ambitions for the Borough between key agencies from the public, private and voluntary sector who seek to improve the quality of life experienced in this part of the Black Country. It also sets out in overview the arrangements for getting there. In order to achieve this shared vision the plan sets out four high level priorities.

- 7. Supporting business to thrive and supporting local people into work.**
- 8. Improving health including well being and independence for older people**
- 9. Creating Safe, Sustainable and Inclusive Communities**
- 10. Improving Safeguarding, Learning and the Life Chances for Children and Young People.**

Delivering our Priorities

Each priority identified in The Walsall Plan will be overseen by a thematic group and supported by a delivery plan which details activity at a borough and more local, Area Partnership level. The Safer Walsall Partnership Board is responsible for the delivery of the Community Safety Plan and the thematic lead for the Creating Safe, Sustainable and Inclusive Communities priority.

The Community Safety Plan is the overarching community safety document for the borough and details the areas on which the agencies that make up Safer Walsall Partnership will focus their combined activities and in doing so contribute towards the delivery of the Walsall Plan.

Delivery of the priorities identified within the Community Safety Plan will be achieved through the wide range of strategies and delivery plans that cut across partnership activity. These strategies and plans include:

1. The Walsall Plan and associated delivery plans
2. Area Partnership Plans
3. West Midlands Police Control Plans
4. West Midlands Police Manual of Standards (ASB)
5. Walsall Alcohol Strategy
6. Adult Drug Treatment Plan

7. Children & Young People Plan
8. Domestic Abuse Strategy & Action Plan
9. Substance Misuse Plan
10. Reducing Re offending Strategy
11. Youth Justice Plan

The diagram on page **22** illustrates this partnership model and how the Safer Walsall Partnership Board fits within it. Supporting the partnership structure and sitting above the identified thematic groups are the high level governance arrangements that exist within each partner agency. These include Walsall Council Cabinet which has also approved/endorsed this Community Safety Plan.

Performance Management

The Partnership has in place a robust performance management framework that will allow us to deliver effectively on the priorities and objectives that have been set in this plan. The Safer Walsall Partnership Local Policing and Crime Board is responsible for identifying cross cutting opportunities for partners to work effectively together and for monitoring performance against this plan. This responsibility includes working to ensure resources are targeted to deliver against strategic and local priorities and identifying and planning for anticipated challenges and any areas of performance weakness. The Board reports into the Tasking and Coordinating Group and ultimately to the Borough Management Board which is responsible for overseeing all partnership activity in Walsall.

GOVERNANCE

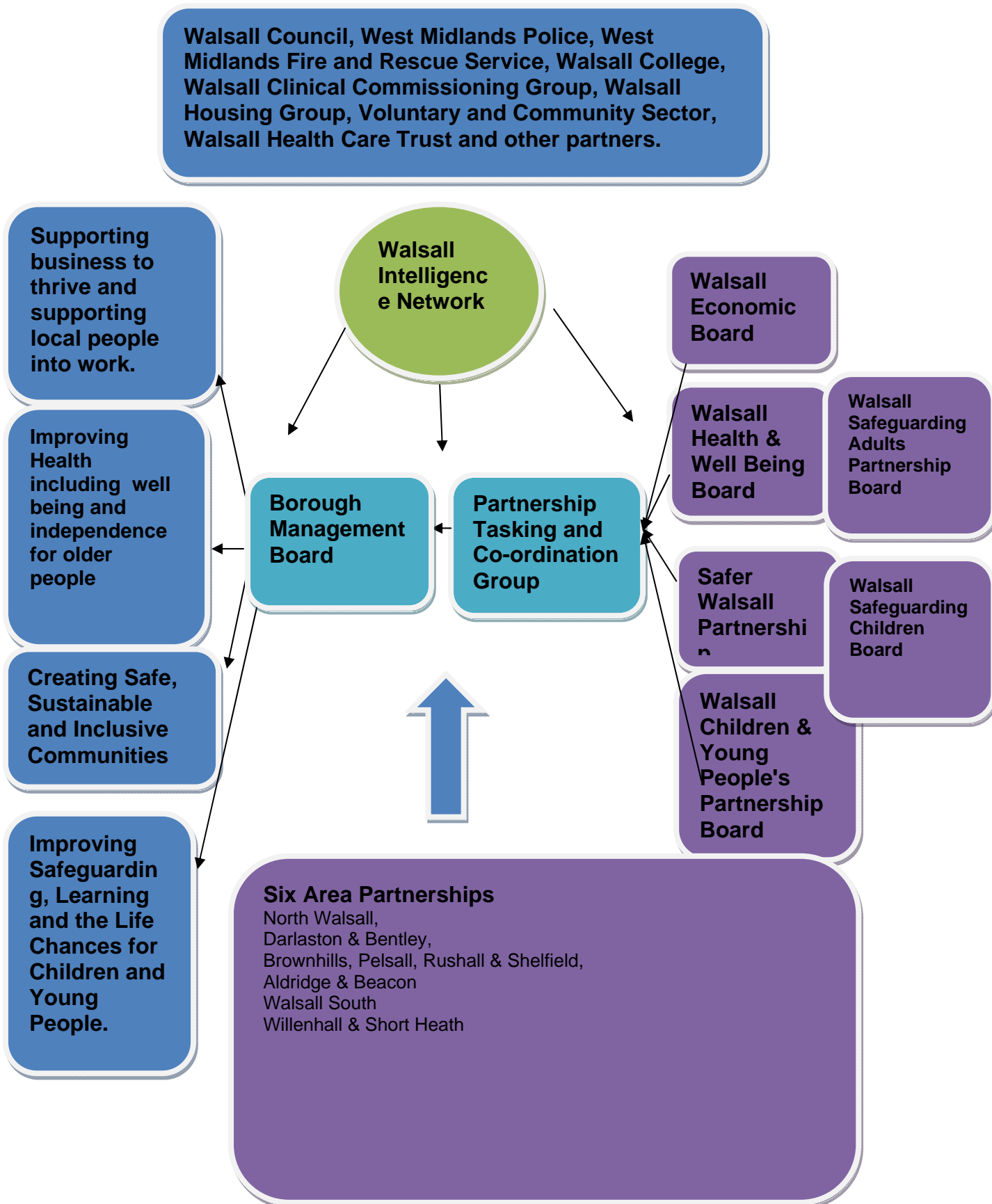
The Partnership has actively promoted the involvement of our communities through initiatives such as Safer Walsall Question Time, which gave residents the opportunity to discuss local issues with representatives of the Safer Walsall Partnership Board. In order to increase the visibility and accountability of our work, this board has evolved into the Walsall Policing and Crime Board, which consists of the same responsible authorities, but now has community representatives from all six area partnerships as well as voluntary agencies, such as Victim Support.

The inaugural meeting of the new Board took place in July 2013. Members of the public will be invited to observe proceedings and see for themselves how decisions are made and hear the topics under discussion. It is planned to take these meetings out into our communities and provide coverage through local press and social media.

Partnership Arrangements In Walsall

Strategic Priorities

Thematic Groups



Safer Walsall Partnership recognises and celebrates the considerable support agencies receive from the communities we serve.

There are various ways in which you can become involved or find out more about what is happening in your area:

Area Managers

Each of the boroughs Area Partnership's has an Area Manager who coordinates a range of partner activity and can be contacted about any local issues. The name of each manager and the area they cover is listed below. They can be contacted on 01922 650000 or via e mail at areapartnerships@walsall.gov.uk

Area 1 - Brownhills, Pelsall, Rushall and Shelfield - **Ranjit Kaur**

Area 2 - Aldridge and Beacon - **John Morris**

Area 3 - North Walsall - **Michael Greenfield**

Area 4 - Walsall South - **Denise Perry**

Area 5 - Darlaston and Bentley - **Lyndon Parkes**

Area 6 - Willenhall, Short Heath and New Invention - **Nicola Holmes**

Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch is one the biggest and most successful **voluntary crime-prevention movements**. Schemes usually cover a street or group of houses and are run by a co-ordinator who acts as the contact between residents and the police. Setting up a scheme is very easy as residents receive support from the police and other agencies, including street signs and crime prevention materials.

To find out more contact Kevin Pitt at Walsall Police Station on 01922 439103 or visit www.walsallpolice.org.uk

Street Champions

Street Champions are the eyes and ears of Walsall Council. They take a keen and active interest in tackling issues in their local area, reporting problems such as fly-tipping, graffiti and any other activity that impacts on their neighbourhood. Our Street Champions are a dedicated team of local volunteers that receive on-going training through regular events delivered by agencies such as Walsall Council and West Midlands Police. Regular newsletters keep our volunteers updated on what's happening across the Borough.

To find our more contact Sylvia Milner at Walsall Council on 01922 654299 or visit www.walsall.gov.uk

To report ASB

Call - 01922 648291

E mail – asb@walsall.gov.uk

You can also report ASB to your local police team by calling 101 and tenants of Registered Providers should contact their landlord in the first instance.

If you or your property are in immediate danger always dial 999

Further information

You can also find out more information on community safety and other matters by visiting:

www.walsallpartnership.org.uk