

Darlaston Local Neighbourhood Partnership – 27th March 2006

Partnership Plan and Feedback from Task Groups

Portfolio: Local Partnerships
Service Area: Neighbourhood Services
Wards: Bentley & Darlaston North Ward
Darlaston South Ward

Summary of report

The purpose of the report is to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership of the progress to date.

Recommendations

- (1) For LNP members to continue in attendance at the workshop meetings
- (2) For individual LNP members to encourage wider participation from community members within the task groups
- (3) For the LNP to agree in principal the details of the partnership plan review outlined in appendix 1

Partnership Plan

A review of the partnership plan has been undertaken by the LNP. The aim of this exercise was to collate key issues from all stakeholders and look at action planning for 2006-2007. As a result the LNP will be able to develop a clear set of actions and pledges for the next financial year that will demonstrate how they are making a difference and having an impact at a local level.

A set of key pledges and actions is attached in draft format (appendix 1).

Progress to date

- Mapping Exercise of facilities and activities for young people:- An initial draft of the brief (specification for who will carryout this work) is currently being written. The draft will be circulated to LNP members in due course.
- Calendar: - The Education Task group concluded that it would be useful to find out what courses (educational, vocational, employment) are taking place within the area. Thus they have decided to publish a 15 month academic calendar with this information on it, with details of term times. Colin Robinson, from Walsall Lifelong Learning Alliance is carrying out initial mapping of information. This information will be reported back to the LNP in due course.
- Bus Tour – A meeting will have taken place on 24th March @ Bentley Youth Centre, Wilkes Avenue. An update from this task group will be given at the LNP meeting.

Future Task Group Date

27th April 2006 6pm
Peoples Partnership Centre
Wing Close, Bentley, WS2 0LS

Contact officers

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Appendix 1 - DRAFT

Darlaston LNP Partnership Plan Review

Following the recent workshops, the LNP have formed the following actions and themes, which will form the 2006-2007 Neighbourhood Agreement for the LNP.

Theme: Economic Development and Enterprise

Pledge: Maximise Opportunities for local people to benefit from regeneration proposals for the area

The LNP will look to support:

- Providing education/ vocational and employment programmes that meet the needs of the community
- Walsall Regeneration Company's plans
- Creation of employment opportunities for young people in places such as Bentley Mill

Solutions:

- Raise awareness of educational, vocational and employment programmes being delivered within the area
- Walsall Regeneration Company playing a major role in the contribution towards addressing Employment opportunities for young people
- Link in to local and national organisations to raise aspirations (i.e. Wolverhampton University)
- Good transport infrastructure so that people could travel to wider areas for work – Metro Link in 2010
- More IT and technology based businesses need to be encouraged into Walsall
- There was a need for more business staff training, not just in Darlaston but in Walsall as a whole. However some new businesses are coming in

Theme: Children and Young People

Pledge: Maximising Leisure and Community Facilities across the area

The LNP will look to support:

- To consult Young People to see what they want
- Setting up a young peoples forum
- More and improved facilities for young people – sporting, leisure
- A youth service that meets the needs of Darlaston (including detached workers)

Solutions:

- Mapping of provision to identify need
- Consult with Young People
- Better usage of facilities (Darlaston REC)
- Every Child Matters Paper

Theme: Health and Older People**Pledge: Improving Health for All**

- Obesity and smoking prevalence in the LNP is higher than Walsall averages.
- There is a very large number of lone parent households (14.1% of all households).
- Long-term illness is also a problem with over 1 in 5 people reporting such a condition in the LNP.
- Cervical screening, breast screening and flu-uptake are all below borough averages **and** national targets.
- The rate of teenage pregnancy is double the national rate the LNP area (in both wards).
- Information on what types of services are being delivered and where (dentistry)
- Support the formation of Healthy Eating –Food Coop
- Information on Drinking (binge drinking)
- Support the Expert Patient Programme
- Support the Healthy Living Centres Agenda
- Maximise the usage of current health Centres in Bentley and Darlaston

Solutions:

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Theme: Safer and Stronger Communities**Pledge:**

- Neighbourhood Policing
- Increase in Criminal Damage
- Burglary
- Vehicle crime
- A Vision for the Canals
- Fly-tipping and Recycling
- Traffic Issues
- Antisocial Behaviour – Church Street
- Need to improve the townscape in Darlaston town centre
- Development of community facilities like Leys Hall for the benefit of the community

Solutions:

- Use of current facilities by the police after Darlaston Police Station closes in the evening (i.e. Moxley)

- Local Police meetings (Moxley)
- Motorbike patrols – to police the canals and parks
- Refurbish Shops
- Development of housing within the town centre, including flats above shops
- The canals need to be used more for leisure and so on – there needs to be a link with Town Wharf
- Address the issues outlined within the Bus Tour Document