

## **WALSALL SOUTH AREA PANEL**

**8<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 at 6.00 p.m.**

**Conference Room 2, Council House, Walsall**

### **Present**

Councillor E. Russell (Chair)  
Councillor A. Ditta  
Councillor S. Ditta  
Councillor H. Sarohi  
Councillor G. Sohal  
Councillor A. Nawaz  
Councillor P. Washbrook

### **Officers in attendance**

John Morris – Area Manager  
Nikki Gough – Democratic Services Officer

### **16/16 Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor K. Hussain, R, Martin, M. Nazir.

### **17/16 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016 were approved as a true and accurate record.

### **18/16 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest or party whip.

### **19/16 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

None.

### **20/16 Funding Report**

Members were informed that there no funding applications had been submitted for the Panel to consider. Remaining funding totalled £613.25 which was within the Paddock allocation.

### **Resolved**

**That the report be noted.**

## **21/16 Area Managers Report**

The Area Manager introduced the report and stated that it sought to inform Elected Members for the Walsall South Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within the local area.

Members were informed of the removal of town centre benches. This issue had been reported by the press. It was noted that the press had sourced their information from the Area Managers report and that Officers had not been contacted for their comments. Officers reassured Members that this was done to safeguard the area to attempt to prevent street drinking. It was an action suggested by the police and allowed arrests to be made as a result. Funding for this (£200.00) came from the Area Panels emergency budget and the decision was made by the Area Manager in consultation with the Chair. The Panel were assured that there were no plans to remove any further benches.

### **Resolved**

**That the report was noted.**

The Panel discussed possible themes for the next meeting of the Panel. It was agreed that the following items would be requested;

- **A presentation on community cohesion in Walsall and the Casey review;**
- **The availability of school places in the Walsall South area.**

The meeting closed at 6.30 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....