

Blakenall and Bloxwich Local Neighbourhood Partnership – 20th March 2006

Partnership Plan and Feedback from Task Groups

Portfolio: Local Partnerships

Service Area: Neighbourhood Services

Wards: Blakenall, Bloxwich East and Bloxwich West

Summary of report

The purpose of the report is to inform Members of Blakenall and Bloxwich Local Neighbourhood Partnership of the progress to date.

Recommendations

1. To agree the pledges that the LNP will focus upon over the next 12 months, 2006 – 2007
2. To identify co-ordinators for each pillar to enable the actions highlighted to be progress.
3. Note the actions

Partnership Plan Review workshops

Following the recent workshops, the LNP have formed the following actions and Pledges for 2006-2007. This includes the actions which were suggested to be forwarded from the current plan.

Local Area Agreement (LAA) pillar: Healthier Communities and Vulnerable People

Pledge: Promote and raise awareness of elderly activities available in the LNP area encouraging them to be participate.

Problems:

- Lack of funding for the elderly for recreational and social purposes
- More provision required for the nifty fifty
- Lack of transport to enable the elderly
- Activities required that would incorporate exercise and promote independent living

What the LNP will do:

- Raise awareness of current social and recreational provision. This will be done by
 - Undertaking a mapping exercise of current provision
 - Promoting current provision through various innovative formats
 - Identify gaps in provision
 - Consult elderly people where there are gaps in provision of what services they would like
 - Find support to cater for the new demand in activities where gaps have been identified.
- Ensure suitable transport links are available to locations
- Look at provision for the support available for carers to attend social and recreational activities

Pledge: Promote awareness of Sexually Transmitted Diseases STD's

Problems:

- Increase in sexual transmitted diseases
- Sexual transmitted diseases impact on all residents of all ages
- There has been an increase of STD's in older people
- The teenage pregnancy rate is twice the national average in the LNP area

What the LNP will do:

- Raise awareness of STD's for parents and young people
 - Highlight dangers involved
 - Use shock tactics and graphic photos
 - Use the media to send out a strong and clear message
- Link to other schools outside the LNP area which are Young People in the LNP attend to promote greater awareness of STD's
- Raise young people's aspirations
- Link into NDC's plans of developing a Young People's Information Centre regarding services that affect them and ensure the services that are available in the centre are acceptable to them.
- Promote the use of Chlamydia tests
- Link with the current work being undertaken with teenage pregnancy

Local Area Agreement (LAA) pillar: Safer Stronger Communities

Pledge: Look to sustain funding for current community and voluntary organisations

Problems:

- Lack of funding for community associations and neighbourhood resource centres
- Potential risk of closure of community venues and facilities
- Increase of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Impact on Adult Education courses

What the LNP will do:

- Utilise Community and Voluntary organisations in the new LAA commissioning role
- Seek support from the External Funding Unit for funding applications
- Support Community Associations and other voluntary organisations to develop Business Plans.
- Utilise community associations and other Voluntary facilities more effectively.

Pledge: To improve the grass verges in the LNP area

Problems:

- Cars parking on grass verges and destroying the grass
- Increased congestion on roads
- Unsuitable parking available
- LNP area presents a poor image

What the LNP will do:

- Mapping activity of hot spot areas
- Improve enforcement levels in the LNP area
- Where appropriate use interventions such as bollards and fencing
- Encourage schools to undertake school travel plans
- Review current car parking provision in the LNP area

Pledge: To promote and increase the level of recycling

Problems:

- Low levels of recycling
- Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) targets
- Problem with the bins not being user friendly, can be too heavy for elderly

What the LNP will do;

- More promotional material in the LNP area regarding services available
- User friendly promotional material required
- Promote recycling in schools, encourage children who in turn will take the message back home to their parents
- More awareness of the reasons behind recycling where there is low uptake
- Door knocking of residents not using the kerbside recycling scheme to discuss issues.

Local Area Agreement (LAA) pillar: Children and Young People

Pledge: To increase activities for Children and Young People in the LNP area

Problems:

- Lack of activities for Young People
- Young people congregating in groups which causes concerns for other residents such as fear of crime
- Large number of young people not aware of what is available for them

What the LNP will do:

- Create a baseline of current provision of activities available for Young People. This will be done by undertaking a mapping exercise of current provision using young people from the LNP area.
- Develop a Children's and Young Peoples directory for the LNP and promote current provision through various innovative formats
- Identify gaps in provision and seek to improve them

Future Task Group Dates

Thursday 23rd March 2006 6-8pm Venue Bloxwich Community Centre,
The Old Nursery, Stoney Lane

Wednesday 19th April 2006 6-8pm Venue TBC

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