

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012

Title of Report: Integrated Young People's Support Services – Reduction in Youth Related Anti-Social Behaviour

Ward(s): All

Portfolio: Cllr R Andrew – Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

**Executive Summary:**

This report provides information to members of the Children and Young people Scrutiny and Performance Panel as regards the successful reduction of youth related anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Walsall, focusing on the role of the Integrated Young People's Support Services (IYPSS) and the related intervention model.

The tiered approach of the youth related intervention model is explained as is the related role of Targeted Youth Support and community reassurance work.

IYPSS had a target to reduce youth related ASB by 25% for 2011/12 and achieved a reduction of 34.83%.

The two brief case studies included in the report illustrate the type of approaches taken.

IYPSS is committed to further youth ASB reduction in 2012/13.

To support this target IYPSS will:

- Lead the 2012 summer programme
- Deliver the 'summer of change' programme
- Implement the findings of the current National Youth Agency review of this work in Walsall
- Continue to monitor the most effective allocation of resources and role of Positive Activities/youth work in reducing youth ASB.

Scrutiny are asked to note this report and to provide comments on the success in reducing youth ASB and plans for 2012/13 to sustain further reductions.

**Reason for scrutiny:**

The need to increase the involvement of young people in positive activities and to reduce the level of youth related anti-social behaviour is recognised as a priority by the residents of Walsall, the area partnership arrangements and reflected as such within the Children and Young People's Plan and Corporate Plan.

This report provides the opportunity to consider the success of IYPSS and other council services in reducing youth ASB, significantly and beyond the agreed, ambitious target of 25%.

**Scrutiny are asked to note this report and to provide comments on the success in reducing youth ASB and plans for 2012/13 to sustain further reductions.**

**Recommendations:****That:**

- 1. Scrutiny note the contents of the report.*
- 2. Scrutiny note the success in reducing youth related ASB in Walsall.*
- 3. Scrutiny consider comment on this success.*
- 4. Scrutiny consider comment on the related plan to reduce youth ASB for 2012/13.*

**Background papers:**

None.

**Resource and legal considerations:**

IYPSS will continue to focus its resources and staff to ensure an on-going effective response to youth anti-social behaviour as part of the wider area partnership arrangements.

**Citizen impact:**

The success in reducing youth ASB and intention to continue to prioritise this work in the future is a response, in part, to feedback from the residents of Walsall.

**Environmental impact:**

None.

**Performance management:**

IYPSS and partners will continue to ensure effective performance management to support the achievement of 2012/13 targets to reduce youth ASB.

**Equality Implications:**

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out? /No  
If yes, summarise the key findings here.

**Consultation:**

The report includes feedback from young people engaged in targeted positive activities (in response to ASB issues) and the police and reflects evaluation of this work which has involved a range of partners via the area partnership arrangements.

**Contact Officer:**

Alan Michell – Head of Integrated Young People’s Support Services

☎. 01922 650320

[michellalan@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:michellalan@walsall.gov.uk)

## 1. Report

### 1. The development of a Youth Related Anti-Social Behaviour(ASB) intervention model

Integrated Young People's Support Services (IYPSS) have developed a youth related ASB intervention model which is a core element of the Area Partnership children and young people work streams. The model consists of a number of complimentary interventions, which aim to address all aspects of youth related ASB:

#### 1.1 A consistent well coordinated Walsall 'youth offer'

The model starts from the fundamental principle that there is a need for sufficient diversionary activities for young people to positively engage with. The model reflects the Working Smarter approach, is customer (young people) focused and has reduced waste. The youth offer focuses on:

- i. Involvement of young people in the development of the youth offer. Young people are regularly consulted with and their views are fed through to the Area Partnership's children and young people work stream to ensure the offer meet the needs of young people in the local area.
- ii. A well coordinated local offer which focuses on pooling resources from partners and preventing the wasteful overlap of provision in the different communities to ensure maximising the delivery to young people.
- iii. A well publicised offer to young people, parents and their communities using a variety of media including leaflets, website, Twitter, Facebook and community champions.

#### 1.2 Targeted mobile youth provision

Six detached youth work teams are used to:

- 1.2.1 Pro-actively address seasonal hotspot areas identified through intelligence that is coordinated via the Walsall Intelligence Network; and
- 1.2.2 The use of a tiered approach to deal with referrals, undertake a comprehensive assessment of the identified ASB issues and establish an effective intervention plan. When a referral is received by the detached youth work team they attend 'on-site' over a 4 week period to assess

the level and nature of the youth ASB reported. The assessment includes observations at different times, engagement with young people, community and partners to achieve a full understanding of the nature of the ASB. The assessment identifies the level of the issue and triggers an intervention plan. The 4 tiered assessment process consist of the following:

**Level 1:** The ASB is related to a community perception of ASB or related to young people not knowing what provision there is available in the area. The intervention would include community reassurance or/and direct support to engage young people to existing activities.

**Level 2:** The ASB issue is related to low level unacceptable behaviour e.g. language use, intimidating the community by gathering in large groups by shops or playground, etc. The intervention would include project work with young people addressing their behaviour.

**Level 3:** The ASB issue is related to specific behaviours e.g. substance misuse or other risk taking behaviour, etc. The intervention would include detached youth work in partnership with specialist team's e.g. street teams, health professionals, etc.

**Level 4:** The issue is related to safeguarding. A multi-agency meeting would be called where a clear action plan would be developed and implemented.

Referrals come from a range of sources including ASB officers, police, community members, and Area Partnership Managers tasking meetings.

Our detached teams use the 'young people friendly' branded mobile buses and the Cyberbus (a Double-deckerbus developed in partnership with the Walsall police) as a resource to undertake both pro active and reactive work with young people.

### **1.3 Targeted Youth Support**

As part of the broader IYPSS offer, multi disciplinary targeted Youth Support teams develop bespoke support packages for identified individual young people including those at risk of getting involved with ASB or/and youth crime. The aim is to raise their aspirations and

engage them in positive behaviours and activities to prevent them from (further) involvement in ASB.

The team will also engage with the parents and community where appropriate to ensure the change in behaviour by the young people is supported and sustainable.

Feedback from Targeted Youth Support workers is collated and is illustrated by the examples below:

*'Keiron has come to learn a lot from Kelly and I am very grateful to her. She gives good advice which Keiron listens to and takes on board'*

**Parent**

*'I don't get in to trouble anymore, I booked my ideas up'*

**Connor, aged 16**

*'Because of my Targeted Youth Support programme I haven't been in trouble with the family or police'*

**Natasha, aged 17**

#### **1.4 Community reassurance work**

IYPSS staff and Area Partnership managers focus on ongoing communication with the community around the range of activities, the interventions and the positive impact of the interventions to address issues around perception of youth related ASB with the community.

As part of this approach we have developed postcards raising awareness of our detached provision in the area. The postcards are distributed through the area partnerships, police, ASB officers prior to and during the work of the detached youth workers in the area. The information contains information about the youth work offers and a name and contact number for the youth worker so the community can contact them with any queries or concerns.

## **2. Impact to date**

The youth related ASB intervention model has been rolled out across Walsall since April 2011 and as part of the wider partnership approach has had a significant impact on the reduction of youth ASB.

### **2.1 Data**

*'...it is clear that the co-ordinated partnership approach allowed opportunities for young people to engage in positive activities and*

*prevented any copy cat disorder issues that were experienced within neighbouring areas such as Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton during the summer ...'*

Extract from a summer ASB review report produced by the data analysis team of Walsall Policing team.

**2.1.1** IYPSS set its self a target to support the reduction of youth related ASB by 25% during 2011/12. The quarterly data produced by Walsall policing team shows that we have exceeded this target by 9.83% and achieved total reduction of youth ASB in 2011/12 of 34.83%.

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Quarterly data	All ASB 2010/11	All ASB 2011/12	%reduction in all ASB	Youth ASB 2010/11	Youth ASB 2011/12	%reduction in youth ASB
April – June	3830	2693	29.7	1346	820	39
July – September	3416	2536	25.8	1225	766	37.5
October - December	2577	1861	27.8	978	614	37.3
January - March	2310	1980	14.3	830	654	21.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	12133	9070	25.25	4379	2854	34.83

**2.1.2** 3041 individual young people engaged positively in our 2011 summer holiday programme. As part of the summer holiday programme we undertook a customer satisfaction survey with young people who had taken part in the summer holiday provision. This resulted in 89.7% young people reporting being overall satisfied with the provision available. 51.2% reported that due to engagement in the programme they 'kept out of trouble'.

**2.1.3** The detached youth work teams have worked with 2719 individual young people.

## **2.2 Case study**

**2.2.1** An ASB referral reported the issue in Bloxwich area of young people vandalising fencing and also gaining entry into a block of flats, smoking, being "Rowdy" and that they had also smashed windows in the mornings.

During the assessment workers identified the issue was related to young people looking for shelter as they waited for the buses in cold and wet weather conditions. The workers also identified that the young people were eating

unhealthy food for breakfast while waiting for the school bus.

The intervention plan included exploring suitable shelter for young people and addressing their unhealthy lifestyle. The result was the development of an early morning healthy breakfast and fitness club called "Keep Out the Cold" based at Blakenall Community Centre held before they catch the bus to school.

**2.2.2** A group of 8 young people in Darlaston who received their last warning before moving onto a potential Anti Social Behaviour Order were referred to the detached team in March 2011. The detached youth workers built a relationship with young people and challenged their behaviours through an intensive 2 day residential programme followed by ongoing work with them in the community. To date none of the young people have subsequently been involved in anti social behaviour in the community.

### **3. Next steps**

- 3.1** IYPSS is committed to supporting a further reduction of 10% in Youth related ASB.
- 3.2** The 2012 summer programme was published on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012 and outlines over 500 activities provided by IYPSS and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector providers. The publicity material has been distributed through the area partnerships, schools, youth clubs, libraries, leisure centres, etc. A full programmes is updated daily through our positive activities website [www.mywalsall.org/positive](http://www.mywalsall.org/positive). Our summer programme will be fully evaluated in September and will include a customer satisfaction survey as per last year.
- 3.3** This year we are also delivering a 'summer of change programme'. This programme is looking to support and engage year 6 vulnerable young people in a mentoring programme. The mentoring will be provided by young people who start year 11 or 6<sup>th</sup> form and seeks to ensure they are positively engaged during the summer as well as make a successful transition to their secondary school.
- 3.4** We have been able to secure a free independent review of our youth related ASB intervention model via the National Youth Agency. The report of this review highlighting successes and



further areas of development will be available from September 2012.

- 3.5** As well as continuing to monitor the impact of youth work and the ASB intervention model on youth related ASB we are in the process of reviewing our outcome based quality assurance model. We intend to align this to the '7 clusters of capability' as outlined in the positive for youth policy as set out by the coalition government.

