

**Blakenall and Bloxwich Local Neighbourhood Partnership**  
**20th June**

**Partnership plan**

**1. Brief Summary of Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform the LNP of the additions made to the Partnership Plan and the general progress of the various task groups.

**2. Work to date**

The LNP has undertaken the following task group meetings since the last main LNP meeting:

- **Health Task group:**

Two health workshops took place on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2005 and 25<sup>th</sup> May 2005 which looked at health related issues for the Borough of Walsall and Blakenall and Bloxwich LNP area. The workshops were facilitated by the tPCT.

Members of the LNP who attended the workshop were provided with some useful information in regards to current health problems within the area and discussions focused upon health issues specific to Blakenall and Bloxwich.

- **Task Groups:**

An all task group meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2005 where Crime and Environment task group, Young People and Lifelong Learning task groups discussed issues in relation to Blakenall and Bloxwich LNP. Further issues and actions were highlighted and incorporated into the Partnership Plan.

Suggestions were also made in how a number of actions could be taken forward and this in something the task groups are working towards. The task group also completed a prioritisation exercise to highlight which actions the LNP would be focusing upon in the short, medium and long term.

The Young People task group has held a number of meetings and telephone conferences in order to move ahead with the priorities. They have focused upon the following two priorities

A survey of what youth activities are available in the LNP area

A survey of young people to find out what activities are required in the area

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- **Funding Workshop**

In addition to normal task groups a further meeting took place to specifically discuss the allocated budget of £22,000.

### **3. Recommendations**

- LNP to endorse changes and additions to partnership plan
- For LNP members to continue in attendance at the workshop meetings
- For individual LNP members to encourage wider participation from community members within the task groups

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# **Bloxwich and Blakenall**

## **LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

### **COVER PAGE**

Size - A4 Booklet

- 1) To be based on 'Vision Document' Style Cover including photographs from individual local areas
- 2) Photographs to be inserted within matrix with blanked off areas in-between.
- 3) Text above matrix to clearly show: (LNP area) Local Neighbourhood Partnership
- 4) Text below matrix to clearly show: Local Neighbourhood Plan 2004 - 05
- 5) Full logo's for Walsall MBC & Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership to go underneath at bottom of page.

**PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2005 -06**

## **Contents**

Walsall Council - A Vision for Walsall in 2008

About Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership

**Section one - Introduction**

**Section Two – Area Profile**

**Section Three – Areas for Action**

**Section Four – Making it Happen**

**Appendix**

**Walsall Council – A Vision for Walsall in 2008**

Walsall Council has agreed its vision and priorities from now until 2008. This has been achieved through local consultation about what sort of place Walsall could be in the future and what part the council should play in leading the changes ahead.

To support this vision the council has identified 10 priorities against which specific actions will be delivered. From now until 2008 the council will tackle important issues linked to these 10 priorities to ensure that the vision for Walsall is achieved.

**Vision 2008:** In 2008, Walsall will have an established reputation as an ambitious “can-do” place where a civic, economic and cultural renaissance has been made possible.

In 2008, Walsall people are proud of their heritage, proud of what their borough has become and excited about future opportunities.

In 2008 Walsall will be a learning borough that promotes the value of learning and achievement, in our schools and colleges in the home, in the community and at work.

In 2008 Walsall will have a reputation as a clean, green and safe borough.

By 2008, real improvement will be evident in the health of our citizens, and the needs of people who care for others will be acknowledged and their work valued.

In 2008 local people will see themselves as residents of the borough as a whole. Local districts and their centres will still have their strong sense of identity. Walsall Town Centre will be an exciting and vibrant place for culture and business – acting as the economic powerhouse of the borough.

In 2008 Walsall Council will be recognised as a listening organisation, which effectively represents, but also tackles, the concerns of local people. The council will provide strong and responsive civic leadership, supporting local communities with the resources and tools to provide local solutions to local problems. Walsall will enjoy high levels of civic involvement in neighbourhood partnerships and in a capable, vibrant voluntary sector.

By 2008 Walsall will have played a full role in transforming the Black Country into a highly successful sub-regional economy.

**Priority Areas:**

- Ensure a Clean and Green borough
- Make it easier to get around
- Ensure all people are safe and secure
- Make our schools great
- Make Walsall a healthy and caring place
- Encourage everyone to feel proud of Walsall MBC
- Make it easier to access local services
- Strengthen the local economy
- Listen to what people want
- Transform Walsall into an excellent local authority.

**About Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership**

**“Walsall will be a prosperous, inclusive and competitive Borough in which its diverse communities feel involved, safer, healthier, and can take pride in its future.”**

Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership (WBSP) is Borough-wide and brings together the major service delivery agencies (Police, Health, Local Authority), and the business, community and voluntary sectors, to tackle issues of deprivation within the Borough’s most deprived areas.

The WBSP comprises six Theme Groups:

- Improving Community Safety and Crime Reduction
- Improving Health, Well-Being and Social Care
- Regenerating the Economy
- Sustaining a Better Place to Live and Work
- Raising Educational Standards through Lifelong Learning
- Community Engagement (and Equalities)

The Partnership is now commissioning against four strategic objectives:

- Supporting a thriving Economic Community, through supporting existing businesses, encouraging new business and raising the skills base of people in Walsall
- Environment and Improving the Image of Walsall, through raising aspirations, improving liveability, and regenerating the fabric of neighbourhoods
- Opportunities for Children, through a variety of formal and informal activities
- Community Safety and Reclaiming Neighbourhoods and addressing the impact of substance misuse, through education and awareness raising, particularly on young people through diversionary and health promotion activities

With four integral Themes:

- Skills Escalation
- Raising Aspirations
- Community Cohesion
- Improving the Image of Walsall

The WBSP works closely with Walsall Community Empowerment Network to ensure that communities of interest and geography are fully involved with the Partnership and the decisions it makes. This also includes the Local Neighbourhood Partnerships.

**Together these strategic priorities set the backdrop against which Local Neighbourhood Partnerships operate and set the scene for improvements identified within this neighbourhood plan.**

## **SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION**

## **Foreword by Partnership Chair - Chair of Partnership**

### **What is a Local Neighbourhood Partnership?**

A Local Neighbourhood Partnership or LNP is a meeting at a more local level, between the council, partner agencies and representatives of the business, voluntary and community sectors where local issues are discussed, problems identified and solutions proposed to resolve them. A further key role of the LNP is to engage and consult with all local people to help identify these key neighbourhood issues and to seek views on how best to tackle them, and in doing so, produce a local neighbourhood plan.

The make-up of a local neighbourhood partnership includes all ward councillors for the area, four council appointed partners including the police, Primary Care Trust and primary and secondary school representatives, and up to ten locally appointed partners from the business, voluntary and community sectors. This however, does not stop members of the public becoming involved, as meetings, which are held every three months, are open, with everyone free to attend. Each meeting of the LNP does have an agenda, with key topics for discussion, but also allows time for members of the public to raise questions and to have their say on local issues.

### **What can the Local Neighbourhood Partnership do?**

The partnerships are there to:

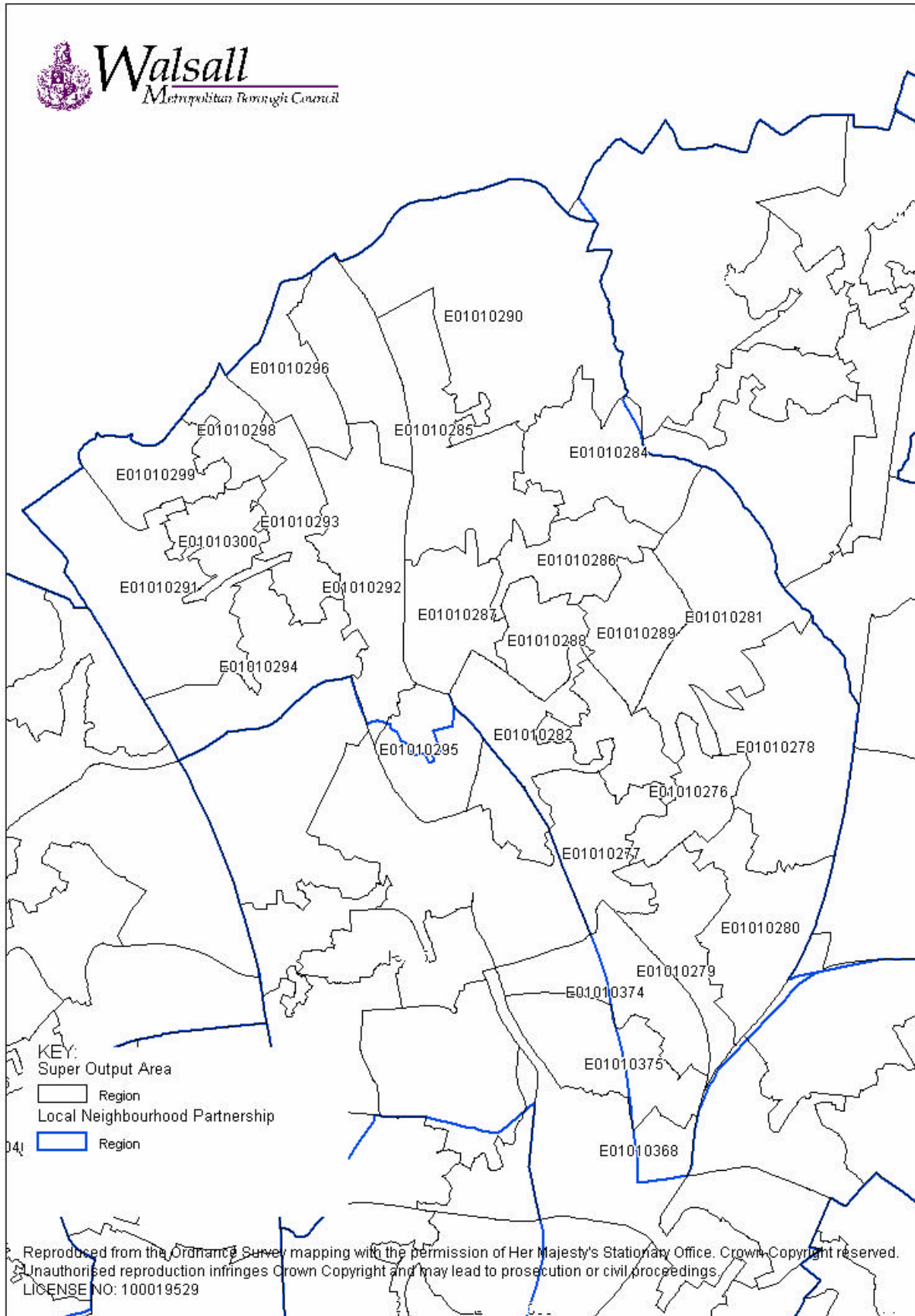
- Consult and involve local residents, businesses and other service providers in agreeing a plan for their area.
- Produce a partnership plan which will help to deliver the 2008 Vision of the Council and inform the Community Strategy for the borough.
- Manage and monitor the implementation of their plan and publish their achievements each year.
- Increase the involvement of local citizens in improving the environment in which they live, work or study.

The LNPs will play a significant role in involving local individuals and groups in deciding how, when and where services are delivered in their area. They will do this by:

- Helping local people to get involved in deciding what needs to change in their area through the development of the partnership plan.
- Looking at ways of improving partnership working with other public service providers.
- Giving a view on local services provided by the Council or other public bodies.
- Using their partnership plan to inform and influence the service and business planning process of the Council and other service providers.
- Considering petitions and other collective representations relating to their area and linking these to their partnership plan.

## SECTION TWO: AREA PROFILE – Strategic Intelligence Unit

### Map of the Area





NOTE: Works to be carried out under the DDA in 2004/05: Elmore Row Centre Elmore Green Road, Bloxwich, Goscote Neighbourhood Resource Centre, Middle Crescent, Goscote, Mossley Centre, 1 Roche Road, Bloxwich, North Walsall Cemetery, Saddleworth Road, Bloxwich, Public Conveniences, Blakenall Heath, Bloxwich, Rivers House, Slacky Lane, Goscote, Blakenall Community Association, Blakenall Row, Blakenall, Bloxwich Cemetery, Field Road, Bloxwich, Bloxwich Leisure Centre High Street, Bloxwich

## **Facts About the Area**

This Section presents a range of statistics on the LNP; it places this LNP in context of the Walsall borough wherever possible.

**Population structure:** This LNP area has slightly above the borough average of young people aged up to 15 years of age. Some 94.6% of residents are of white origin while 2.7% of the area's residents are of Indian, Pakistani or Bangladeshi origin. It has the third lowest proportion of owner occupiers of all LNP areas.

**Environment:** In a study completed in 2001, residents in this LNP area when asked "Are you satisfied with this area as a place to live?" some 64% answered "Yes", however this was the "least satisfied" of all LNP areas. When asked "Do you consider the area to have got worse?" some 48% Answered "Yes" – the most "dissatisfied" of all LNP areas.

**Economy:** The area has below the borough average for economically active people and, as a result, a high level of unemployed people. In terms of people claiming a range of benefits, it has the highest rate of people claiming Disability Living Allowance, Income Support and income Support Lone Parents. Another indication of poverty is car ownership, this LNP area is above the borough average for people who have no cars.

## **Statistics relating to specific neighbourhoods within the LNP area**

Government departments have developed a way of mapping “poverty or deprivation indicators” across England. They use a variety of statistical sources to arrive at what is known as the “Index of Multiple Deprivation”. This is essentially a way to “rank” all the areas of the UK to identify those areas in most of need of assistance to raise income levels, improve health and education in the area etc.

A recent improvement is that the Government has now developed a way to consider smaller local neighbourhoods within wider geographic wards; they are useful to highlight distinct “pockets” of deprivation or poverty.

The Government has called these small neighbourhoods “super output areas” or SOAs for short. There are some 32,482 of these “SOAs” across the country; each has been given a numerical code. The Council has applied these codes to the appropriate LNP area.

The map above details these codes; the chart below applies the codes to local neighbourhoods. The LNP has allocated identifying names to these neighbourhoods, based on local knowledge, to more easily identify distinct areas within the LNP which may be in need of “special” help.

### **Understanding the Chart below**

The Chart details the ward names within the LNP; it applies the SOAs (small neighbourhoods) within the Ward and gives a more local neighbourhood name to the numerical code given by the Council.

The final two columns give the “Rank of Index of Multiple Deprivation”, essentially the lower the rank – the more deprived the area. Thus Goscote with a rank of 469, is considered to be the most deprived neighbourhood, overall, in this LNP area and therefore in need of most help.

The final column states the “IMD Most Deprived Percentage”. There are 32,482 SOAs (small neighbourhoods) nationally; the Council has ranked neighbourhoods largely by those in the top 25%, 50% and 75% for ease of reading. So:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Rank: 1 – 8,120       | those falling within the top 25% (e.g. “most deprived”) |
| Rank: 8,121 – 16,241  | those between 25% to 50% (mid range)                    |
| Rank: 16,242 – 24,362 | those between 50% to 75% (above mid range)              |
| Rank: 24,363 – 32,482 | those between 75% to 100% (those “least deprived”)      |

To further explain the above ranking, neighbourhoods “scoring below 3248” – would be in the top 10% most deprived nationally, those “scoring below 6,496” would be in the top 20% most deprived nationally and so on; we use these smaller percentages later in this section.

| Ward          | Super Output Area Code |                       | Rank of Index of Multiple Deprivation | IMD Most Deprived Percentage |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Blakenall     | E01010281              | Goscote               | 469                                   | 5                            |
| Blakenall     | E01010276              | Harden                | 774                                   | 5                            |
| Blakenall     | E01010278              | Goscote/Harden        | 777                                   | 5                            |
| Blakenall     | E01010375              | Ryecroft              | 883                                   | 5                            |
| Blakenall     | E01010283              | Blakenall Heath       | 1179                                  | 5                            |
| Bloxwich East | E01010289              | Goscote               | 1689                                  | 10                           |
| Blakenall     | E01010280              | Coalpool              | 1929                                  | 10                           |
| Blakenall     | E01010374              | Ryecroft              | 2176                                  | 10                           |
| Bloxwich East | E01010295              | South Bloxwich Centre | 2488                                  | 10                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010294              | Dudley's Fields       | 2697                                  | 10                           |
| Blakenall     | E01010279              | Coalpool              | 2719                                  | 10                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010292              | Bloxwich              | 2788                                  | 10                           |
| Bloxwich East | E01010286              | Blakenall Heath       | 2960                                  | 10                           |
| Bloxwich East | E01010288              | Blakenall Heath       | 3102                                  | 10                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010300              | Mid Sneyd             | 3742                                  | 15                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010299              | Sneyd North           | 3769                                  | 15                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010291              | Sneyd South           | 3891                                  | 15                           |
| Blakenall     | E01010282              | Blakenall Heath       | 4023                                  | 15                           |
| Blakenall     | E01010277              | Leamore               | 4405                                  | 15                           |
| Bloxwich East | E01010287              | Bloxwich East         | 6374                                  | 20                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010293              | Mossley               | 6890                                  | 25                           |
| Bloxwich East | E01010284              | Little Bloxwich       | 7484                                  | 25                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010298              | Bloxwixh North        | 8295                                  | 50                           |
| Bloxwich East | E01010290              | Fishley               | 9933                                  | 50                           |
| Bloxwich East | E01010285              | Lower Farm/TP Riley   | 14612                                 | 50                           |
| Bloxwich West | E01010297              | Top North Bloxwich    | 27312                                 | 100                          |
| Bloxwich West | E01010296              | Top North Bloxwich    | 29744                                 | 100                          |

There are therefore 27 small neighbourhoods in this LNP area. Breaking statistics into smaller neighbourhoods provides the LNP with a far better grasp of specific areas within the locality which may be in need of attention.

In terms of this LNP area there are 5 “numerical” SOAs in the top 5% nationally, and a further 9 in the top 10%. Overall, the LNP has 22 of its 27 areas in the top 25%, thus evidencing a need for action.

## Considering specific elements of the overall “neighbourhood ranking”

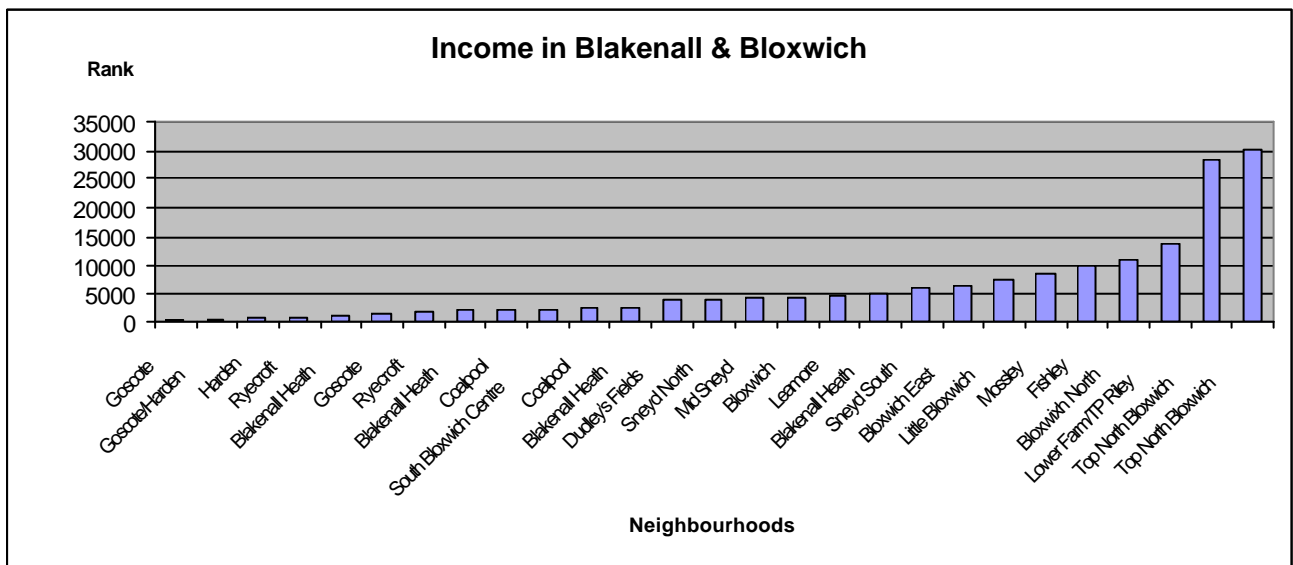
The above chart brings together a series of “scores” from various aspects of living in an area to arrive at the overall rank. These aspects include:

- Crime (the incidence of recorded crime for four major crime themes: burglary, theft, criminal damage and violence)
- Education & Skills (the numbers of skills and qualifications held by local people both young people and adults)
- Employment (numbers of unemployed people in the area)
- Health (those people whose quality of life is impaired by poor health),
- Housing & Services (lack of services based on geographical barriers or access to suitable housing)
- Income (average wage levels, various economic indicators)
- Living Environment (considers the indoors living environment (measures the quality of available housing) and the outdoors environment)

The following charts present a variety of the above “aspects” which may be of interest to the LNP.

### Graph 1

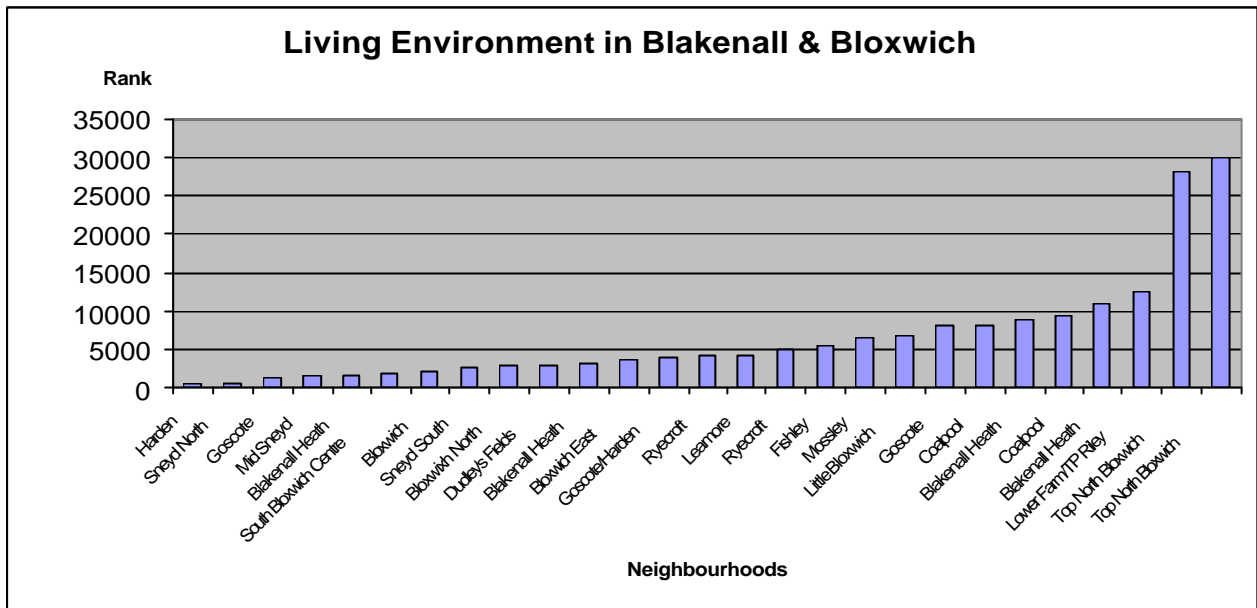
#### Income



The above graph confirms the extent of the deprivation across the LNP area, Goscote is the most deprived small neighbourhood with a “score” of 404. However reading from left to right on the above chart, all neighbourhoods from Goscote to Leamore all score below 4,872, hence all are within the top 15% deprived of all neighbourhoods in England. Conversely, the two Top North Bloxwich neighbourhoods at the right of the chart, with scores of 28,467 and 30,264 respectively, are amongst the “least deprived” neighbourhoods in the country.

## Living Environment

Graph 2

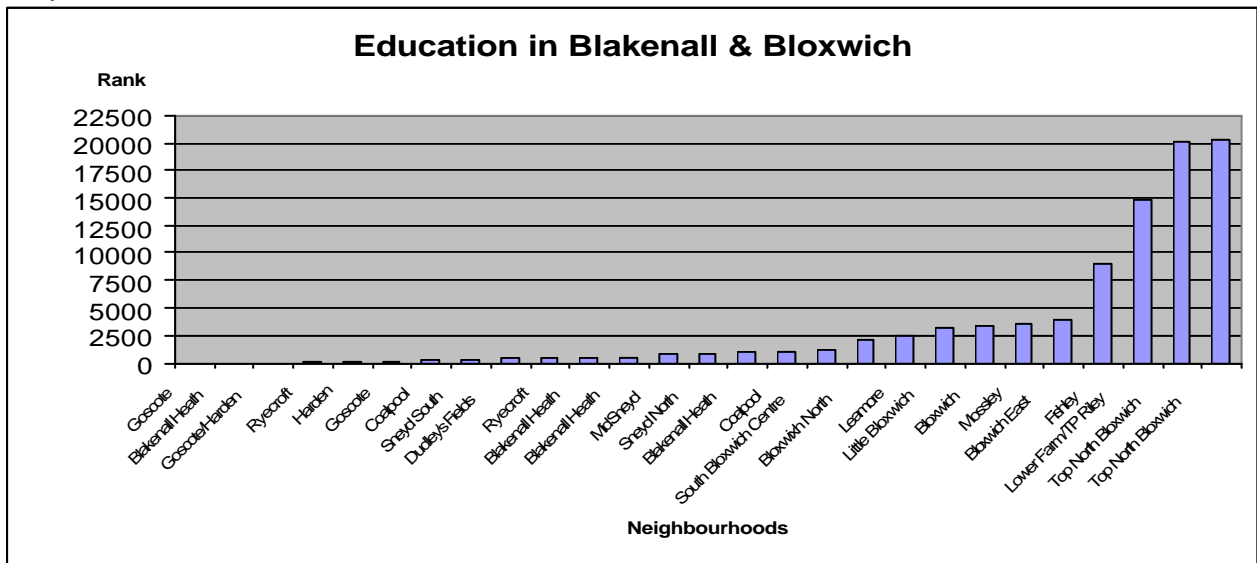


The above graph highlights the extent of deprivation across the area in terms of the living environment. Four areas are within the top 5% most deprived in England – the most deprived being Harden with a score of 486. A further 7 are in the top 10% and in total 19 areas are ranked within the top 25%. As with income, Top North Bloxwich, 2 small neighbourhoods at the right of the above graph score 28,098 and 30,029 respectively, which places them in the 15% least deprived neighbourhoods.

In terms of the outdoors environment the area is blighted by several problems, perhaps foremost of which is the use of residential premises for “business” use, examples here include garage mechanics and scrap merchants.

## Education

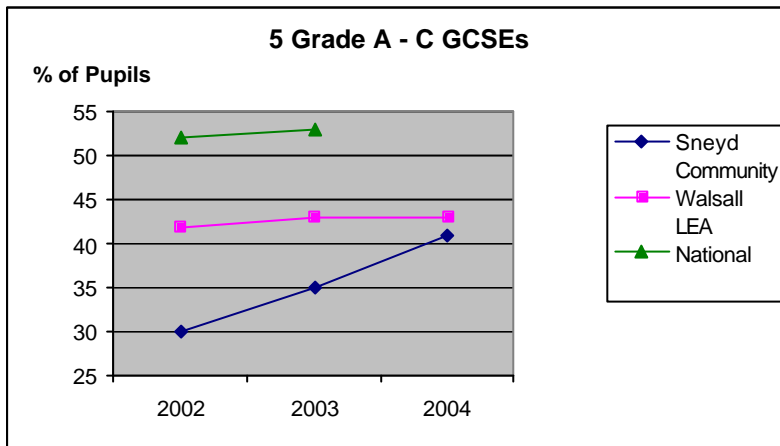
Graph 3



This aspect is recognised as a serious concern to LNP members. The chart graphically illustrates the extent of deprivation in educational terms in many neighbourhoods in the LNP area. Here, seventeen neighbourhoods (63% of the LNP area) are in the top 5% most deprived nationally – of these, 8 are actually in the top 1% most deprived nationally. The LNP area has only four neighbourhoods that are placed above the 15% most deprived.

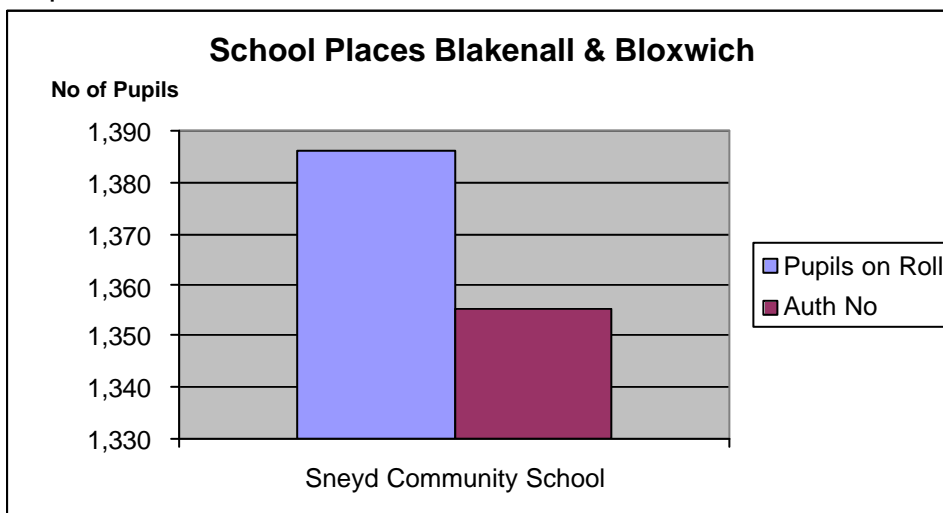
The above statistics are further evidenced by the historical secondary school attainment graph shown below. Other factors may be an issue here such as that of teenage pregnancy where there is a tendency for young people not to complete their education and therefore fail to achieve.

Graph 4



On a more positive note, however, the attainment is improving, furthermore, as can be seen in Graph 4 below the school was oversubscribed by some 31 places in 2003:

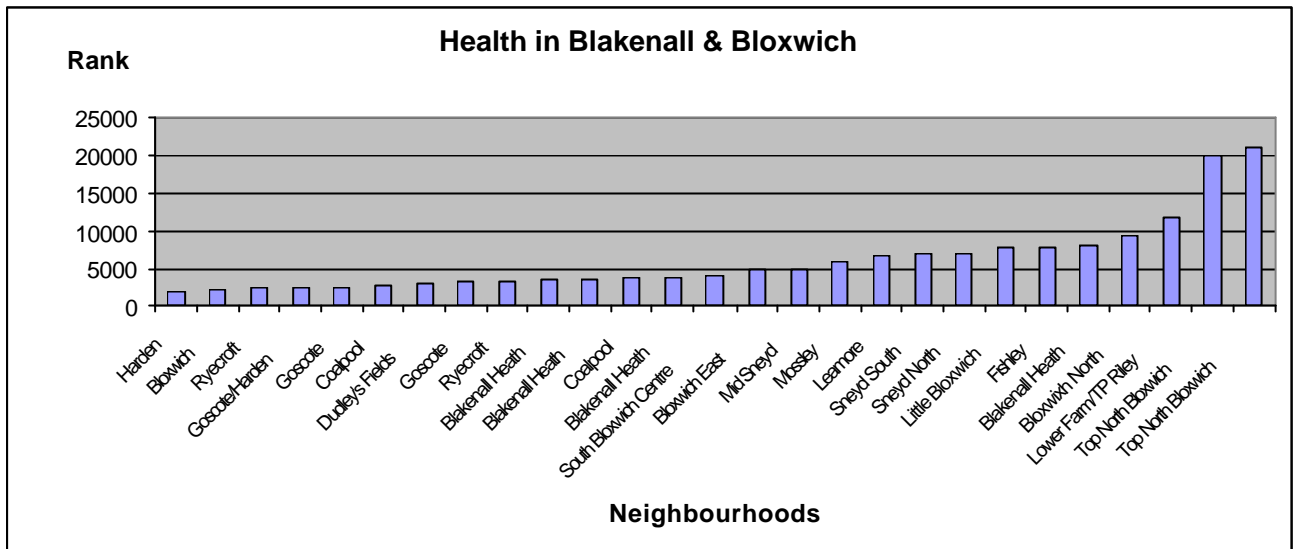
Graph 5



## Health

A similarly challenging picture emerges from the Health statistics; this is another particular area of concern from the perspective of the LNP:

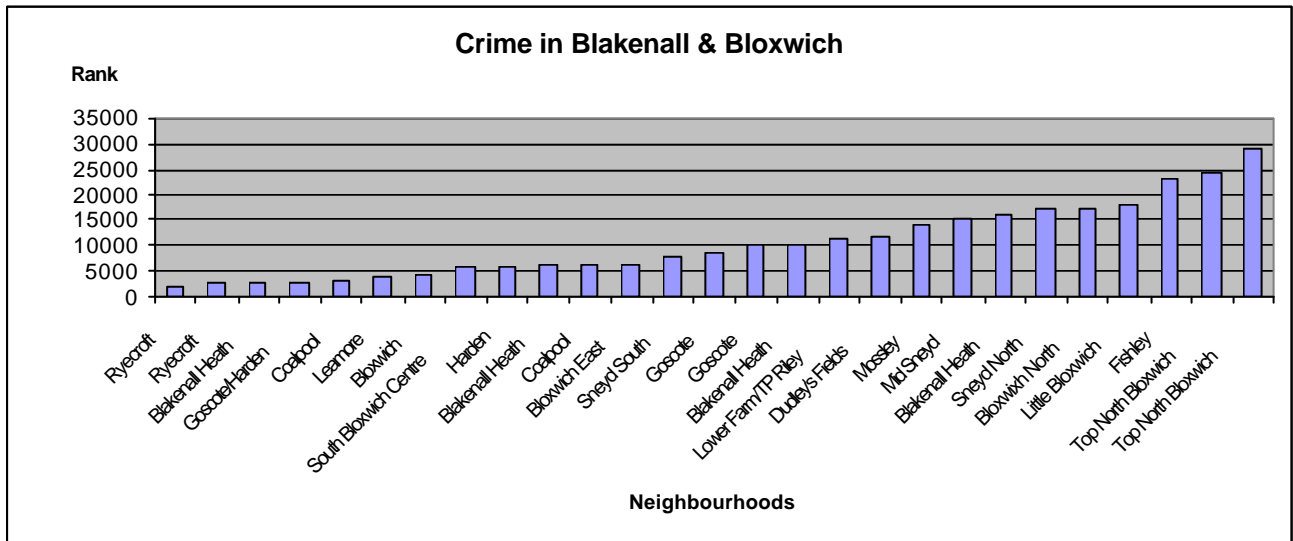
Graph 6



All but four neighbourhoods are in the top 25% most deprived – Harden again being most deprived with a score of 1,977. A further eight are in the top 10% and five in the top 15%.

## Crime

Graph 7



The crime aspect does not reveal as greater degree of deprivation as other aspects of life in the area. The above chart shows that the most deprived neighbourhood (Ryecroft) scores 2,253, with a further three neighbourhoods in the top 10% most deprived in the country. However, in an audit completed in 2001, residents were asked how safe they felt in their area in the daytime and evening, residents in this LNP area ranked second in both categories e.g. “least safe”.

It is worth noting that this LNP area appears to have an issue with young offenders, it has the highest numbers of youth offending of all LNP areas, however the rate of offending has decreased slightly from 2002/03 to 2003/04 from 5.5% to 5.2%.

## **SECTION THREE: AREAS FOR ACTION**

### **THEME: Access to services & local environment**

Objective: To improve the quality of life for local residents

- Many problems arise due to a lack of care by local residents and businesses alike. This has manifested itself in a variety of ways noticeably fly tipping (noted on Ward Walk in areas such as: Slacky Lane, North Street Mosque, Coalpool Library, Chantry Avenue, Buxton Flats), dog fouling (reference to Ward Walk, Shakespeare Crescent), parks and instances of graffiti. There is also parking on grass verges and footpaths. In terms of local businesses, there are residents who own businesses in residential areas examples here include scrap metal businesses and car mechanics. There are many derelict buildings in the local areas including pubs, clubs and garages; there are also homes which have been vacant for some time.
- There was little to encourage people to take care of the local area. There were too few litter bins which lead to ever increasing amounts of litter, plus the increased costs regarding the removal of bulky items has directly led to an increase in fly tipping as residents were unable to afford the removal costs. There was felt to be a general lack of enforcement by local police leading to drinking of alcohol in public places which leads to disorder and litter.
- There is a need to stress the “good parts” of the area – particularly the green spaces and promote environmentally friendly initiatives in which people could join in.

#### **Environmental Regeneration Schemes in area:**

- Blakenall Heath Village regeneration scheme: Start February 05 - Completion Sept 05
- Bloxwich Market Place Regeneration Scheme: Start February 05 - Completion June 05
- Elmore Green Enhancement: Start March 05 - Completion June 05
- Bloxwich Park Regeneration: Currently On site - Complete March 05
- Bloxwich Townscape Heritage Initiative: Start 2001/2 - completion September 2006



**THEME Continued: Access to services & local environment**

| Action   | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link |
|--|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Greater enforcement to restrict parking on grass verges  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| A clear policy needs to be developed on dealing with derelict buildings  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| More litter bins should be installed with greater education and enforcement on environmental awareness                         |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Promote and implement more recycling services, initiatives and facilities. Link to Council's strategy.                         |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Establish better facilities and services for elderly residents including improved meals on wheels and a better mix of housing. |                    |          |         |                 |                       |

| <b>Action</b>   | <b>Target &amp; Timescale</b> | <b>Champion</b> | <b>Outcome</b> | <b>Progress so far</b> | <b>Themed Strategic Link</b> |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Council policy on 'Meals on Wheels' to be reviewed and reversed in line with the plan         |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas should be banned                          |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Preservation of all green and open areas in the LNP area                                      |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Fencing or gating recreational areas  |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Control access to cemeteries and prevent misuse of areas                                      |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Combat fly tipping  |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Improve off road parking to reduce congestion on the roads – enforcing residents only parking |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Encourage new developers to have adequate parking facilities                                  |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Provide more street bins to combat litter   |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Access to all green areas (ie school fields)  |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |

| Action   | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link |
|--|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Combat noise problems such as loud music, mini motor bikes etc |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Improve street lighting  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Enforcement of keeping gardens clean                           |                    |          |         |                 |                       |

Sub Action Plan relating to Transforming your Space projects

| <b>Action</b>   | <b>Target &amp; Timescale</b>   | <b>Champion</b> | <b>Outcome</b> | <b>Progress so far</b> | <b>Themed Strategic Link</b> |
|---|---|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| <p><u>North Walsall and Ryecroft/Coalpool Improvements</u></p> <p>The project consists of a new multi use games area (MUGA), to be installed on the existing area within the grounds of North Walsall Primary School, a refurbished play area and a new path connecting the refurbished play area to the existing pathways. The new MUGA, although located within the school, will be for dual use between the school and the community</p> | <p>It is anticipated that work will begin on site in April 2005 and be complete in July 2005.</p> | <p>TYS</p>      |                |                        |                              |

| Action   | Target & Timescale   | Champion   | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link |
|--|--|------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| <p><u>Leamore Park Community Facility</u><br/>As part of the New Deal programme, a masterplan for Leamore Park will be produced.</p>   | <p>At present the project is at an early stage however it is anticipated that the TYS proposal that results will be completed by September 2006.</p> | <p>TYS</p> |         |                 |                       |
| <p><u>Goscote Neighbourhood Resource Centre (NRC)</u><br/>A new toddlers play area will be developed at the rear of the centre. The scheme consists of safety surfacing, fencing and equipment for under 5s. In addition the existing concrete fencing will be replaced with palisade fencing and the entrance areas will be enhanced.</p> | <p>The schemes are anticipated to be on site in March 2006 and complete in approximately May 2006.</p>   | <p>TYS</p> |         |                 |                       |

| <b>Action</b>  | <b>Target &amp; Timescale</b>   | <b>Champion</b> | <b>Outcome</b> | <b>Progress so far</b> | <b>Themed Strategic Link</b> |
|--|---|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Abbotts Street</u><br>The scheme will install an earth mound on the existing grassed area to restrict unlawful access, provide new shrub and tree planting and a new lay-by to ease parking problems around the open space. | The schemes are anticipated to be on site in March 2006 and complete in approximately May 2006.                         |                 |                |                        |                              |
| <u>Bloxwich Park</u><br>A new play facility, aimed at younger children, will be installed on the former bandstand site.  | The Bloxwich District schemes are anticipated to be on site in October 2005 and complete in approximately January 2006. |                 |                |                        |                              |
| <u>King George Vth Playing Fields</u><br>This scheme will install a new skate facility to complement the existing play area and lido. The project will provide more enhanced facilities for a range of age groups.             | The Bloxwich District schemes are anticipated to be on site in October 2005 and complete in approximately January 2006. |                 |                |                        |                              |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p><u>Leamore Park, Play Proposal</u><br/>Worn out play equipment will be replaced with new items aimed specifically at younger children. The existing safer surfacing and retained items of equipment will also be refurbished. In addition to this new equipment, surfacing and fencing will also be installed in a new location to cater for middle age range children.</p> | <p>The Bloxwich District schemes are anticipated to be on site in October 2005 and complete in approximately January 2006.</p> |  |  |  |  |
| <p><u>Leamore Park, Youth Proposal</u><br/>A multi use games area is proposed as part of the programme of regeneration in Leamore Park.</p>  | <p>The Bloxwich District schemes are anticipated to be on site in October 2005 and complete in approximately January 2006.</p> |  |  |  |  |
| <p><u>Mossley Open Space</u><br/>Proposals for the scheme include the installation of new multi-use goal ends incorporating basketball and football provision.</p>   | <p>The Bloxwich District schemes are anticipated to be on site in October 2005 and complete in approximately January 2006.</p> |  |  |  |  |

**THEME: Make our schools great**

Objective: To improve educational opportunities and lifelong learning locally

- Low attendance and subsequent poor attainment is an issue. It is apparent that many children live in families where second/third generation unemployment is the norm. There is therefore little pressure from families on children to attend school. The obvious result of the above is that with such little value being placed on education the knock on effect is the low educational achievement amongst adults (evidenced statistically) with many progressing to low skilled, low paid jobs. There is a need to encourage investment in employment initiatives to tackle entrenched unemployment
- This LNP has within its boundaries the area covered by the New Deal for Communities initiative; additionally The Academy is located in the area. As such, there is a strong feeling from LNP members that there should be equality of opportunity for all young people attending any local school.



**THEME continued: Make our schools great**

| Action   | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link                                   |
|--|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|---|
| Priority should be given to encouraging employers to locate in Walsall. Relevant skills training should then be organised. |                    |          |         |                 | Links should be made through the Strategic Partnership. |
| All primary schools should have a sports hall or theatre to ensure equality of access.                                     |                    |          |         |                 |   |
| Establish links to youth groups to focus on literacy problems and support young people in networking activities.           |                    |          |         |                 |   |
| Take steps to improve the image of education   |                    |          |         |                 |   |
| Smaller classes  |                    |          |         |                 |   |
| Improve nursery facilities   |                    |          |         |                 |   |
| Better resources in schools  |                    |          |         |                 |   |

**THEME continued: Make our schools great**

| Action  | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link |
|---|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| More active involvement from schools in consultation activities especially in regards to youth facilities |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Increase adult awareness of literacy  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Increase sexual health awareness and drug and alcohol awareness in the LNP area                           |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Increase after school clubs   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| More classes for older population   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Finance lifelong learning   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Improve school meals  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Provide more one to one support for slow learners   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Faster response for non-attendance  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| More local courses for example health and hygiene, first aid, child minding                               |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Link courses available via centres to take part   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Improve quality of teachers and dress code  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |

**THEME: Make Walsall a healthy and caring place**

Objective: To focus on a range of health issues apparent in the area

The needs of young people were of particular concern:

- The rates of underage drinking are a concern, although underage smoking is more prevalent in the area; this is thought to be due to poor enforcement. The on street drinking culture in evidence could be due to loss of meeting places in the area e.g. public houses had closed. This had inevitably led to a break down in community cohesion with the elderly being frightened to go out, particularly in the evenings.
- Teenage pregnancy is an issue; the perception is that there are two and three generations in one family that have experienced teenage pregnancy, so it has become a cultural issue in the area. It is thought that to become a teenage mother is seen as a “positive” event in a young person’s life. It is felt that more health related education, at an earlier age, would be beneficial as would more nurse outreach practices. The high rates of teenage pregnancy were felt to be a key contributory factor to low educational achievement with many young girls leaving school, without completing their education, never to return.
- On a wider scale, the average life expectancy in this LNP area is 10 years less for men and seven years less for women than the Walsall borough average

**THEME continued: Make Walsall a healthy and caring place**

| Action  | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link                                   |
|---|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|---|
| Greater enforcement to reduce underage drinking and smoking – get tough on those who sell to underage people        |                    |          |         |                 | Police strategies and Walsall Safer Borough Partnership |
| More educational programmes in schools regarding health related matters including “anti” campaigns in public places |                    |          |         |                 | Police strategies and Walsall Safer Borough Partnership |
| Invest in analysing why people are dying younger – cancer is a particular concern                                   |                    |          |         |                 | Links to Education                                      |
| Need to bring services into the local area e.g. specialist services in GP surgeries                                 |                    |          |         |                 |   |

**THEME: Young people**

Objective: To improve the quality of life chances of young people in the local area

- The lack of facilities for young people, particularly access to a youth service, was thought to have knock on effects in rising anti social behaviour in the area. There is general disorder with young people displaying anti social behaviour and causing criminal damage. This lack of opportunities is also evident in the health statistics given previously.

| Action   | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link |
|--|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Enable young people to have access to a youth service.   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Empower young people to shape services; give them a voice. Work with parents to increase awareness |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Investigate the causes of issues; working with young people from an early age is vital.            |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Obtain funding to ensure projects such as summer programmes are maintained                         |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Survey required about provision of youth facilities in the area                                    |                    |          |         |                 |                       |

**THEME continued: Young people**

| Action  | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link |
|---|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Consult with groups of young people within the LNP areas                  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Walsall MBC to supply a service fully to 8-10 years and 11-19 years       |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Funding for young people  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Qualified staff   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Service to be what young people and what the LNP area wants to be         |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Build on groups between young people and elderly to form a mutual respect |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Young People facilities required later at night and weekends              |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Priority to areas without any service                                     |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Develop services in all areas   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Sexual education awareness promotion through youth clubs and schools      |                    |          |         |                 |                       |

**THEME continued: Young people**

| <b>Action</b>                                     | <b>Target &amp; Timescale</b> | <b>Champion</b> | <b>Outcome</b> | <b>Progress so far</b> | <b>Themed Strategic Link</b> |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Youth forum to focus upon issues concerning youth |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| Sport and physical activity to be developed       |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |
| More access to activities – free use of swimming  |                               |                 |                |                        |                              |

**THEME: Make people safe and secure**

Objective: To reduce the incidence of crime locally

The crime workshop held in November identified several hotspots of anti social behaviour and other criminal activities. These are identified below:

- Anti Social Behaviour: Barracks Lane, Booth Close, Dudley Fields, King George Park, Marbrough Street, Mossley shops, Severn Road, & Thomas Flats, Turnberry Road shops, Wolverhampton Road, North and South Blakenall

| Action   | Target & Timescale | Champion | Outcome | Progress so far | Themed Strategic Link |
|--|--------------------|----------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Greater enforcement by improving services from local police to local community |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Combat drug suppliers and users in the area                                    |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Respond faster to properties suffered from property and land                   |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Improve police telephone system  |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Increase police presence/engagement in the area                                |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| Greater enforcement regarding car parking and obstructions                     |                    |          |         |                 |                       |
| More prosecutions to those selling to underage drinkers                        |                    |          |         |                 |                       |



**THEME continued : Make people safe and secure**

| Action  | Target & Timescale | Champion      | Outcome | Progress so far   | Themed Strategic Link |
|---|--------------------|---------------|---------|---|-----------------------|
| Dealing with, and dispersing group of 4 showing anti-social behaviour                     |                    |               |         |   |                       |
| More use of ASBO's  |                    |               |         |   |                       |
| Zero tolerance on domestic violence, child abuse and rape                                 |                    |               |         |   |                       |
| Wardens required in the Goscote and Poets area due to the rapid deterioration of the area |                    | Ian Robertson |         | LNP team brokered liaison with the Wardens. Abdul Kallam and Andy Guest leading on this |                       |

## Recommendations

- 1) May wish to consider the five core issues suggested as a possible 'Statement of Intent'
- 2) A mix and match use of interventions ranging from target hardening to intelligence led policing operations for domestic burglary.
- 3) Further analysis (location) will focus target hardening activity to hot spot areas.
- 4) A mix and match of vehicle crime interventions from the toolkits supplied.
- 5) Further detailed analysis for criminal damage re: "type and location" to inform action plans.
- 6) In relation to high levels of shop theft - analysis of shop types and specific advice from crime reduction officer
- 7) Consider banning orders for convicted shop lifters
- 8) Further analysis of violent crime re location/cause to inform action planning
- 9) Public reassurance through patrols by specials, police officers and neighbourhood wardens (Blakenall)
- 10) Review effectiveness of witness protection arrangements
- 11) Develop meaningful local performance indicators around anti-social behaviour to enable residents to determine the effectiveness of agency responses
- 12) Research the levels of domestic violence (DV) cases and the levels of repeat victimisation (within the violent crime category) and develop a specific area DV plan
- 13) Research the levels of alcohol use in relation to violent crime and public order offences and if necessary develop an area specific substance misuse policy
- 14) Develop a multi-agency support service for asylum seekers in the area, monitor the levels of harassment and provide reassurance and appropriate responses to identified need
- 15) Review the extent/quality of engagement with hard to reach/vulnerable groups in the area

## **SECTION FOUR: MAKING IT HAPPEN**

### **Summary of Planned Consultation Events**

#### **How local people will be involved**

Local people and groups can be involved in many different ways in their LNP:

- Attending the quarterly LNP meetings.
- Becoming a member of one or all of the LNP task groups.
- Becoming a member of the community forum.
- Attending consultation events organised by the LNP.
- Publicising the work of the LNP in your community.
- Encouraging people and groups you know to attend LNP meetings and events.

LNPs are particularly keen to involve and make contact with young people and groups in your area who don't traditionally take part in partnerships such as this

If you would like to find out more about how you can get involved, then please contact Parveen Sangha, Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer on 01922 654701 or email on [sanghap@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:sanghap@walsall.gov.uk)

#### **Review of the Plan**

Each [plan upon completion will be presented to Walsall council, it's partners and local communities to outline what actions have been agreed, and what the Partnership Plan contains. In this first instance, the Partnership Plan will be in effect until the end of March 2006, but thereafter will be reviewed on an annual basis. In this way, the partnership will ensure that any actions that have been suggested or identified as part of the Partnership Plan will indeed be acted upon, making it accountable to the whole of the local community. Action on developing and reviewing the Partnership Plan will not stop once the draft plan is completed, but will in effect be an on-going process as issues are resolved and new ones are identified.

#### **Partnership Meeting Dates – Constitutional Services**

### **APPENDIX**

#### **List of Partners – Constitutional Services**

#### **Useful Contacts – (To be added)**

## **Appendix**

## Appendix 1

### Blakenall & Bloxwich LNP Crime Workshop

Venue: Conference Room, Council House, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004

#### Mapping Exercise

| Issues  |
|---|
| Severn Road – Drugs/Crime and Anti-social behaviour   |
| Smith & Thomas Flats - antisocial behaviour and drugs dealing                               |
| Smith & Thomas Flats – empty flats  |
| Turnberry Road Shops – Antisocial Behaviour   |
| Bloxwich North - Railways Car Park - Car Crime  |
| Mossley Shops, Creswell Crescent – Anti Social Behaviour                                    |
| King George Park – Anti Social Behaviour, Drinking, Motorcycles                             |
| Wolverhampton Road, Bloxwich, near Bloxwich park bus shelter antisocial behaviour           |
| Bloxwich Railway Station, unsafe station to change  |
| Marbrough Street – Drugs antisocial Behaviour   |
| Dudley Fields, Sneyd Hall Road – Antisocial behaviour near bus shelter                      |
| Barracks Lane – Anti-Social behaviour crime   |
| Booth Close – Drugs and Anti-social behaviour – 6-year prison sentence                      |
| Mossley Lane – Anti social behaviour Possession   |
| Blakenall Area – 2 drug dealers banned from area for 4 years                                |
| Lower Farm Area - Vehicle breached injunction, judge ordered further breach 5 year sentence |
| Bloxwich High Street & Wolverhampton Road – CCTV installed                                  |
| Bloxwich High Street - off licence selling alcohol to young people                          |
| Ryle Street – antisocial behaviour  |
| North Blakenall - Youth nuisance  |
| North Blakenall - Fly tipping   |
| North Blakenall - Domestic Violence   |
| North Blakenall - Youth nuisance  |
| North Blakenall - Fly tipping   |
| North Blakenall - Vehicle fires   |
| North Blakenall - Antisocial behaviour  |
| North Blakenall - Fires   |
| South Blakenall - Antisocial behaviour drugs  |
| South Blakenall - Fly tipping in whole area   |
| South Blakenall - Business Parking from property Archer                                     |
| South Blakenall - Hawbush Road – drugs problem  |
| South Blakenall - Cost cutters – underage drinking  |
| South Blakenall - Major issues with drugs and antisocial behaviour from neighbours.         |

| <b>Success for the Area – Issues Dealt with</b> |
|---|
|---|

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|--|
| Shakespeare Crescent – 18 months prison for drug dealing |
|--|

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| Shakespeare Crescent – Injunction |
|-----------------------------------|

|  |
|--|
| Blakenall & Bloxwich - 4 drugs related ASBO's banned for 5 years |
|--|

|   |
|---|
| Large traveller caravan removed and banned from allowing van on WHG |
|---|

**Appendix 2**

**Please note:**  
 The number in the box relates to how many LNP members prioritised that issue to be of importance and what the LNP should concentrate upon.  
 The boxes highlighted in yellow are the top priorities in regards to a particular theme.

