

# Walsall Wellbeing Outcomes Framework

## “Thriving individually and together”

### What is Walsall Together?

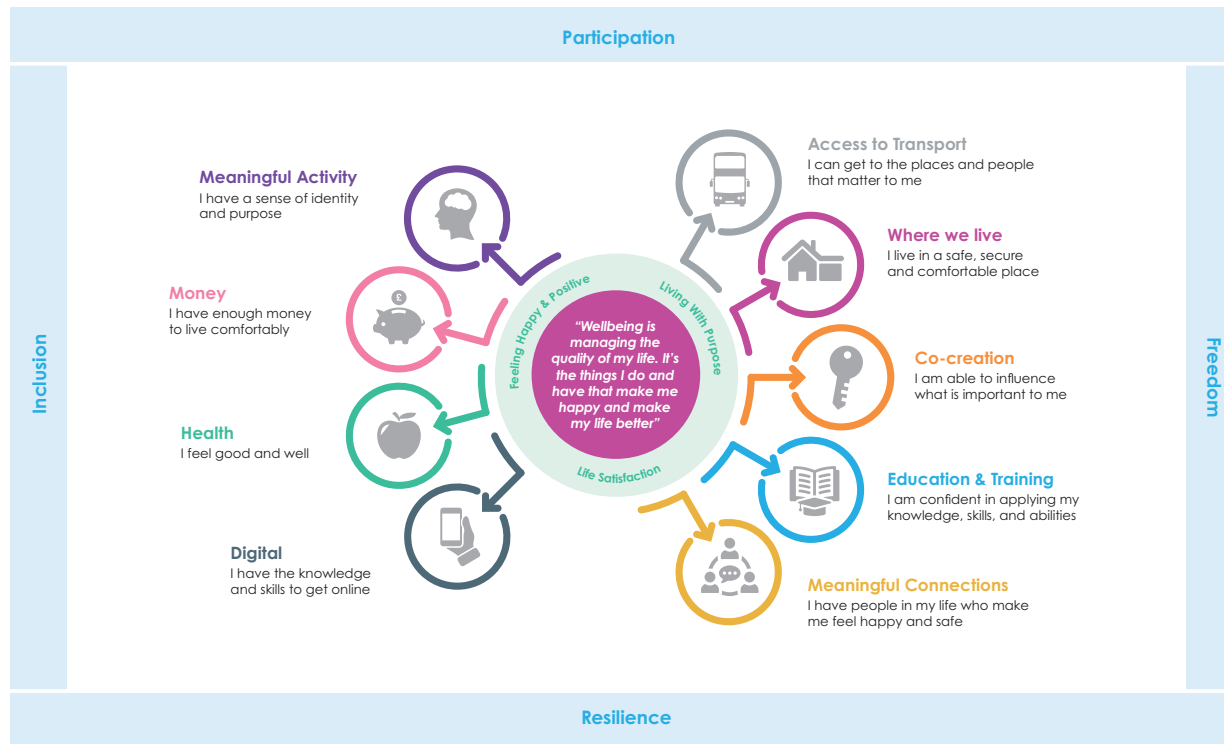
Walsall Together (WT) is a partnership of health, social, local authority, housing, voluntary and community organisations working together to improve physical and mental health outcomes, promote wellbeing and reduce inequalities across the borough. The Walsall Wellbeing Outcomes Framework (WEOF) is owned by Walsall Together and its partners.

### What is the WEOF?

The WEOF is strengths based and positively framed. It defines wellbeing and identifies that personal (individual) wellbeing (the green circle) is bespoke to each individual but is influenced by nine fundamentals that impact on the way we think, act, feel and behave. It presents corresponding aspirational outcomes that can be monitored at a population level via strategic indicators. The model is surrounded by four core factors. There is clear interconnectedness between the factors, the fundamentals and developing, maintaining, or increasing wellbeing.

### Why develop a WEOF?

We are seeing a growing population, changing/more complex and long-term needs, there is a cost-of-living crisis, and more demand on services. All this is at a time when resources are scarce and whilst we are dealing with the aftermath of a pandemic. In Walsall there is added complexity, with 56% of the population being in the most deprived 20% in the UK. We know that wellbeing is negatively affected by deprivation, and this holds true even after allowing for personal attributes and situations. The WEOF is a significant milestone in our journey towards a comprehensive and inclusive approach to equity.



### How was the WEOF developed?

Drawing upon extensive research, strategies, policies, data, stakeholder insights, and the wisdom of Walsall's residents, the WEOF was co-produced, by a partnership team of circa 25 stakeholders, over a period of 10 months. The consensus was that using multiple angles, to check and challenge, was positive in putting people at the heart of the design. Preference was given to Walsall residents responses when shaping the definition and identifying the fundamentals of wellbeing that matter to them the most.

### What will the WEOF do and not do?

The WEOF proposes an infrastructure for delivering priorities, it does not articulate how or what should be done. It is clearly based on human needs and rights. 'I statements' are aligned to pertinent quantitative existing indicators at the lowest level available. Subjective (qualitative) strategic indicators and operational/service user measures will be established in the future. The WEOF applies to primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention so it is less applicable to responding to short-term crisis. It is aimed at what we can influence at 'place' and not regional, national or global triggers of poor wellbeing.

### How do we use the WEOF to measure wellbeing?

From the research we were able to identify what 'drives' wellbeing. This was crucial for framing our approach to identifying the eighty plus strategic indicators that sit under the WEOF. We selected one or more indicators relevant to each driver. We looked for them at the lowest level of geographic granularity. The indicators were already available in the public domain and were recently and frequently updated. In some cases, data wasn't sufficiently relevant to the driver of wellbeing to justify inclusion, so local indicators will be developed to longitudinally monitor progress, but without the capability of out-of-area benchmarking.

### How will the WEOF be implemented?

The WEOF can be used to explore how we achieve equity, whilst also analysing the impact existing assets have on quality of life. It will shift attention from mapping an area's vulnerability to understanding the capacity and capability of people helping themselves. It will foster dialogue, encourage the exchange of knowledge, and facilitate the co-creation of solutions as well as reducing duplication of effort, resources, and funding. It will require ongoing collaboration, but by committing to this WT will be taking a more inclusive approach to leadership, evidencing success, commissioning and their approach to strengthening communities.

### Who is the WEOF for?

The WEOF will be applied and implemented by leaders across all sectors, for the benefit of residents. It does not have a specific focus on children and young people (CYP) due to their age specific requirements and social standing, which inevitably will lead to a set of bespoke outcomes. However, by improving quality of life of their significant others and strengthening the community, CYP will experience new opportunities and the freedom to grow.

**Health**  
Being healthy in body and mind

**Meaningful connections**  
Having mutual & fulfilling bonds/relationships

**Access to transport**  
Getting to the people we want to see and the places we want to go

**Money**  
Being able to pay for our basic needs and fund the lifestyle we want

**Meaningful activity**  
Engaging in activity we find stimulating and enjoyable

**Co-creation**  
Having the freedom to shape our locality, so it positively influences our lives

**Education & training**  
Developing the knowledge, skills and abilities we need and want

**Where we live**  
Being satisfied with the building and/or the area we live in

**Digital**  
Being able to use technological devices & access the internet