

REPORT TO WILLENHALL & SHORT HEATH AREA PANEL
Election to Local Police and Crime Board
25 June, 2013

The Safer Walsall Partnership Board currently comprises of the Responsible Authorities: Walsall Council, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire & Rescue Service, Health (the Primary Care Trust and Clinical Commissioning Group) and Probation. In addition to this the Board also has representation from the Voluntary & Community Sector (Walsall Voluntary Action), Walsall Housing Group and colleagues in Public Health.

The Safer Walsall Partnership Board met on 14th January 2013 to consider options for establishing a Local Policing & Crime Board in the Borough of Walsall, in response to the requirements of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Board acknowledged the Police and Crime Commissioner's aspirations for ensuring our communities priorities are reflected in how resources are targeted at community safety concerns. It was felt that this was a shared aspiration and something that the Safer Walsall Partnership endeavoured to secure in order to ensure the Borough's Community Safety Plan was "fit for purpose."

It is proposed that the Safer Walsall Partnership further develops to become a community-led **Local Policing and Crime Board** for Walsall, whilst also satisfying its statutory responsibilities as a Community Safety Partnership.

The proposed change shows the Board being supported by appointed community representatives from each of the Borough's six Area Partnerships. It is understood that such representatives could be Councillors or other recognised community champions for an Area, and it would be up to each Area Partnership to recruit such individuals. In addition to this the role of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) is also proposed to be further strengthened by expanding the presence of the VCS at Board level by providing a place for up to three representatives from different "communities of interest", for example, "Victim Support".

The "term of office" for the new community representatives is proposed to be two terms of one year each, to ensure fresh challenge within the proposed arrangements.

The first meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, 9 July 2013, at 6.00 p.m., Darlaston Town Hall.

There will be four meetings throughout the year:

Tuesday, 20 October 2013, at 6.00 p.m. Venue to be confirmed

Tuesday, 14 January 2014, at 6.00 p.m. Venue to be confirmed

Tuesday, 15 April 2014, at 6.00 p.m. Venue to be confirmed

Recommendation:

That the Area Panel nominate one member to represent Willenhall and Short Heath on the Local Police and Crime Board for the Municipal Year 2013 / 14