

**Walsall South Area Panel**  
**3 October 2013**  
(updated 25th September 2013)

## **Ongoing Updates on the Actions for Walsall South Area Plan**

### **1. Purpose of the report**

This report seeks to inform the elected members of the Walsall South Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within Walsall South. The information in the report was correct at the time of writing, 25th September 2013.

### **2. Work Stream priority – Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour**

Responsible Members – Cllr Ali, Cllr Nazir & Cllr Sarohi

Partners Involved – ASB unit, IYPSS, WM Police, Town Centre Management Team, Walsall Area Partnership, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmoreaccord.

- 2.1 Apache CCTV for Walsall South - Area Manager working with Surveillance Unit we currently have access to two cameras that can be deployed in the area. Camera 1 Caldmore Green, Caldmore due to ASB concerns raised by Caldmore Traders Association and Camera 2 Woodward's Road, Alumwell due to Fly Tipping concerns. We also help with the deployment of the Birchills NHW / Agenda 21 camera, which is for the Birchills area only, this is currently located Raleigh Street due to youth ASB concerns.
- 2.2 IYPSS continues to provide detached youth work as and when needed. The Detached Team have been consulting with young people who congregate on St Paul's Bus Station, which has resulted in several ASB reports being lodged. Following these reports and liaising with WM Police and Walsall Councils Community Safety team, it was agreed to consult with these young people and try to find solutions before Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Dispersal Orders are put in place. The Walsall South October Holiday's Activities programme has been developed [www.mywalsall.org/positive](http://www.mywalsall.org/positive) including collation of positive activities provided by partners and community groups to help inform young people and their parents of what is available for them to access in our area. There is a range of activities to suit all tastes including BBQ in the Park with hot drinks and toasted marshmallows (Arboretum & Pleck), Dig it Cook it Eat it (Delves), Sports Extravaganza (Palfrey & Alumwell), youth swimming and gym sessions led in partnership with young people (Town Centre).
- 2.3 Walsall South Tasking group and Trading Standards are working in partnership to identify premises where concerns have been raised for the sale of alcohol to underage drinkers. Last December a young volunteer was able to purchase Vodka from Bradford Street News in Walsall Town Centre. Following a Court Hearing on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013, the seller, pleaded GUILTY to selling alcohol to a

person under the age of 18 years. The seller was fined £200.00 and ordered to pay costs of £1,244,09 as well as a Victim Surcharge of £20.00.

### **3. Work Stream priority – Creating cleaner and tidier neighbourhoods**

Responsible Members – Cllr Azam & Cllr Ditta (Vice Chair Caldmore Tidy group - Cllr Arif)

Partners Involved – Caldmore Village Festival (CVF) committee, Walsall Area Partnership, Caldmoreaccord, Clean and Green, Walsall Housing Group, Reassurance Team, WM Fire Service.

- 3.1 Alumwell Neighbourhood Watch Group organised a Litter pick 24th July covering Alumwell and Pleck as part of Walsall Clean-up 2013. They met at the Innovation Centre, Primley and covered eight different routes providing refreshments for all the volunteers that turned up to help.
- 3.3 The Church Hill Improvement group meets on a regular basis to discuss their long term plan for the area. Some of the actions that are progressing include: Community Pay Back are to paint the railings surrounding the tree belt between Peal Street and Church Street and nearby bollards, English Heritage are now a member of the group and discussion for solutions with the Car Park are underway with Walsall Council. The next meeting of the group will take place Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2013.
- 3.4 Both Palfrey Park and Merrions Wood have retained their Green Flag awards. Palfrey Park has retained the Green Flag for the seventh year running and Merrions Wood has kept its award for the fourth year running. The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales and was developed as a means of recognising and rewarding the best green spaces in the country. It is a sign to visitors that the site is well-maintained and well-managed, with excellent facilities.
- 3.5 The Caldmore Tidy group is going through a transition period, as the current chair has left and a new one has yet to be appointment. An update meeting took place 3rd September where it was reflected that a lot had been achieved by the group in the last three years including linking with the Walsall Council's Void Property group to raise awareness of empty properties in the Caldmore Area that the group has concerns with. The Void Property group updated the group on the properties explaining what actions are being taken to address the groups concerns. Also regular community Tidy Events have taken place over the last three years which have been well supported by community volunteers and partners. The next event will take place Saturday 5th October 10:30 am from Aisha Mosque, Rutter Street food will be provided for all volunteers who help on the day. Skips have kindly been provided by whg and will be located at Newhall House Car Park, Bath Street and Aisha Mosque car park no white goods allowed.
- 3.6 Birchills and Reedswood Neighbourhood Watch / Agenda 21 group have raised concerns of a build up of rubbish in the Birchills area especially in hot spot areas such as Cairns Street this is being

monitored by both Clean & Green services and the community Street Watch team supported by PCSO Chandler. The Street Watch team met Saturday 7th September to review the area.

#### **4. Work Stream priority – Healthy lifestyles**

Responsible Members – Cllr Arif, Cllr Russell & Cllr McCracken

Partners involved – Public Health, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmoreaccord, Walsall Partnership, Walsall College, Extended schools, Social Care & Inclusion, IYPSS, Clean and Green, Sports and Leisure Services

- 4.1 The Diabetes Working group within The Healthy Lifestyles work stream is now meeting bi monthly and is progressing the scoping of provision in our area to support both Type 1 and Type 2. An Action Plan has been developed reflecting the treatment and prevention provision within Walsall South. This is to enable the group to understand the gaps in provision to help influence future delivery. The Action Plan also reflects the process within our area identifying the strategies to link partners involved in commissioning, treatment and prevention of Diabetes for example the group is linking with the STAR (Service Transformation and Redesign) group Chaired by Dr Askey to help support the work of this group.
- 4.2 The main Healthy Lifestyles work stream group is next due to meet Friday 4th October the purpose of this meeting will be to receive an update from Walsall South Children Centres and IYPSS services with relation to young peoples health their current provision to support the health of Walsall South's young peoples health and where they need support from partners. We will also be holding a professional networking lunch at The Crossing St Paul's Thursday 10th October this is to help inform colleagues who work directly with our community on health initiatives such as Make Every Contact Count (MECC), Five Ways to Wellbeing and Diabetes UK's Tape Measure approach.
- 4.3 Primley House, based at the Innovation Centre Alumwell. All social care staff are receiving telecare training which includes an interactive session with various pieces of equipment installed so that staff can see how everything works in a home environment. What is telecare? These are small items of equipment that can help older people or people who have a disability to be more independent. Most of these items are readily available from a range of high street shops, although some more specialist pieces of equipment may need to be sourced from elsewhere. Often individuals, relatives, carers and staff may not be aware of the range of equipment available or indeed what various pieces of equipment do.. To support the training sessions and further spread the word about

telecare and what it is, the social care workforce development team have worked in partnership with the web team and print and design to develop a virtual tour of Primley House. The web-based tour takes you through each room of the house allowing you to click on each piece of equipment to see a short video about how that item works. This online resource is mainly for staff and partners although it can also be accessed by the public. If you think you know someone who might benefit from telecare, if you want to see telecare in action or brush up on your knowledge you can take the virtual tour on [www.web-walsall.org.uk/primley-house](http://www.web-walsall.org.uk/primley-house)

- 4.4 Dementia Cafe is being held last Wednesday of every month 10:30 till 12:00 at The Crossing St Paul's. The session is where people with Dementia and their families can come together with social care professionals for support. For more information please contact Rav Bachra 0121 5213024.
- 4.5 Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust are holding a 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind' event which will take place 12-4pm on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October at the Walsall Arboretum. Everyone is invited to come along to this free community event to celebrate World Mental Health Day, which aims to promote the importance of looking after your physical and mental health. They will be offering free health checks, quizzes, games, tips on healthy eating, massages, sports taster sessions and lots more. They are also looking for volunteers to help on the day – please email [tracy.cross@dwmh.nhs.uk](mailto:tracy.cross@dwmh.nhs.uk) or call 01384 324531 if you are interested in volunteering. You can find out more at their website [www.dwmh.nhs.uk](http://www.dwmh.nhs.uk). There will also be events taking place at Manor Hospital Costa Coffee shop Thursday 10th October 10:00 am to 3:00pm and Park Hall Community Association, Broadway North Reading for Wellbeing taster session Wednesday 23rd October 1:00 to 3:00 pm to coincide with the World Mental Health Day promotions.
- 4.6 IYPSS has supported the development of a Walsall South dance group called Nahjjah. The group has performed at Caldmore Village Festival and they opened up the Walsall South Summer Activities on the streets outside the Saddlers Centre on the 30th July and the 6th Aug in the Saddlers Centre pop-up shop. The group has many talented young people including Nadekka who has also sung solo at the Young People's Awards. The group currently has ten members and is still growing in size. This project is about encouraging young people to think in a more entrepreneurial way and to also promote active lifestyles and well being.

## **5. Work Stream priority – Remove the impact of sex workers and drug dealers**

Responsible Member – Cllr Arif

Partners Involved – WM Police, Caldmoreaccord, Pleck NHW, Hi's N Lows, SAFE Project, Community Safety Partnership, Walsall Housing Group, Probation Services, Lantern House, Manor House Project, Addaction, Dudley and Walsall Mental Healthcare Trust, Supported Housing and Walsall Community Chaplaincy Project .

- 5.1 The On Street Sex Workers project is now progressing with focus on three strands of work:
- Reducing harm - to reduce the vulnerability of sex workers and community and to improve support and diversion for sex workers
  - Community & living - to improve quality of life for community and local residents and to improve the reputation of Walsall.
  - Effective justice - reduce on street prostitution

These pieces of work which are being supported across partnership agencies are being overseen by Walsall South Area Manager with support from Chief Inspector Sue Parker.

- 5.2 Through Operation Scarlet two suspected kerb crawlers will appear in court this month and a suspected sex worker has been jailed due to breaching her criminal anti-social behaviour order (CRASBO) three times in the last two months. Another suspected sex worker was charged for loitering in Palfrey for the purpose of prostitution she has been bailed and will appear in court 25th September. The Police have acknowledged the work of the On Street Sex Worker project and how partners are coming together to help support sex workers who are vulnerable to exit this particular lifestyle. However they have also recognised the concerns raised by residents and will take action on persistent sex working in our area. Since May 2012:
- 94 kerb crawlers have been issued with warning notices and 15 arrested and prosecuted.
  - 30 sex workers have been arrested for loitering and soliciting with 34 being arrested for breaching CRASBOs.

## **6. Work Stream priority – Improving educational achievement**

Responsible Members – Cllr Ali & Cllr Hussain

Partners Involved – Children Services, Walsall South Schools, IYPSS

- 6.1 Sure Start Palfrey / Chuckery and Paddock Children’s Centre are currently delivering Book Start Project to encourage reading and family learning in the home. Along with Palfrey Community Association they are also supporting education and training to include spoken English, literacy, numeracy and life skills targeted in particular at women in south Asian and other communities.

## **7. Work Stream priority – Improving job prospects and employability**

Responsible Members – TBC

Partners Involved – Strategic Regeneration, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmoreaccord

- 7.1 Marks and Spencer in Walsall Town Centre has taken on 16 young people for placements. They are working in partnership with Prince's Trust to create work experience placements for 16 to 25 year olds across the country.
- 7.2 Wolverhampton University, Joseph Leckie Academy, Sure Start Palfrey / Chuckery and Paddock Children's Centre are supporting Student placements to enhance services as well as the students own confidence, experience and employment opportunities.

## 8. Work Stream priority – Improving roads maintenance and traffic flow

Responsible Members – Cllr Martin & Cllr Anson

Partners Involved – Highways & Traffic Management, WM Police, Walsall South NHW groups

- 8.1 Residents in Palfrey and Caldmore have highlighted through their Neighbourhood Watch Groups that inconsiderate parking is a priority issue. WM police working closely with partners and community groups and have proposed a problem solving approach to Traffic issues in these areas. As part of this process Palfrey Neighbourhood Police Team have increased visibility to help motorists adhere to parking regulations, providing education with regards to breaching parking laws and issuing of tickets where appropriate. As part of this process there is a long term plan to improve the flow of traffic and reduce the number of incidents of inconsiderate parking.
- **St Matthew's Church** will be holding a Community Open Day and Church Fayre to mark their 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 10:30 am to 3.30 pm St Matthew's Church, St Matthew's Close, Walsall WS1 3DG. As part of this special anniversary they will be holding a series of events throughout the year [www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](http://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)
  - **Caldmore Village Community Garden** held an event on Saturday 21st September over 100 people turned up on the nice sunny day to view the work so far and to visit the onsite workshops including tasting some of the produce, for example cake made from courgettes. The garden has a diverse range of vegetables from many countries including Bangladesh radishes and Chinese pumpkins all growing in the heart of Caldmore Village.

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