

NORTH WALSALL AREA PANEL

Area Manager's Report

13 September 2016

1. Purpose of the Report
 - 1.1 This report seeks to inform Elected Members for the North Walsall Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within the local area.
 - 1.2 North Walsall has a number of key priorities which have been identified through work with partner agencies, Walsall Intelligence Network and the local community.
 - 1.3 The strategic priorities are:
 - Safer Walsall: Creating safe, sustainable and inclusive communities
 - Children and Young People: Improving safeguarding, learning and life chances for children and young people
 - Business and Jobs: Supporting businesses to thrive and supporting local people in to work
 - Health and Well-Being: Improving health, including well-being and independence for older people
 - 1.4 There are monthly Non Confidential Tasking & Co-ordination (Partner) Meetings that occur in North Walsall. The meetings provide the opportunity for partner agencies to come together and share ideas, information and co-ordinate strategy based on the Walsall Plan.

The partners include: Community Protection, Youth Support Services, West Midlands Police, West Midlands Fire Service, residents, Ward Councillors, Reedswood Park Retailers, Stephenson Square Retailers, Walsall Housing Group (WHG), Caldmoreaccord Housing, Walsall Association of Tenant Management Organisations, West Midlands Probation Service, Walsall Intelligence Network, Environmental Health, Beechdale Community Housing, Bloxwich Academy, Frank F Harrison Community Association, Bloxwich Community Partnership, St Aiden's Care Team, North Walsall Area Partnership, Walsall Adult Community College (WACC), Walsall College, Economic Regeneration Team, Work on the Horizons, Public Health, Lifestyles Team, Forest Arts Centre, Blakenall Community Centre (BCC), Ryecroft Hub, Walsall Link Line, Green Lane Baptist Church & Community Payback.
 - 1.5 A facebook page has now been set up to promote all community activity happening in North Walsall called Let's do it in North Walsall.

2. Safer Walsall: Creating safe, sustainable and inclusive communities

- 2.1 On 1 June the Walsall's first Public Space Protection Order will come into force on the Beechdale Estate and will be in effect for three years. The order has the following conditions:
1. It is prohibited in a public place for any person to engage in activity which has a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, including but not limited to any activity capable of causing nuisance or annoyance, verbal abuse, damage to property including graffiti or vandalism, littering, drug or alcohol related activity capable of causing nuisance or annoyance, violence or threats of violence.
 2. It is prohibited in a public place for any person to cause nuisance, annoyance, alarm or distress involving any vehicle including but not limited to cars, motorbikes, mini motos, push bikes, scooters and skateboards.
 3. It is prohibited in a public place for any person to cause nuisance or annoyance by playing any ball game including but not limited to those played in the street or car parks. Persons who breach the order could be liable for a considerable fine. To date there have only been minor breaches and some warning letters have been issued.
- 2.2 North Walsall police are working closely with Community Protection, Youth Offending Services and local commissioned providers to manage young people on Acceptable Behaviour Contracts. The coordinated approach has seen a reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour. This scheme will now be rolled out across the borough with three training dates scheduled for September for partners who will implement the scheme.
- 2.3 A task and finish group has been set up to address concerns raised in and around Birchills. These include anti-social behaviour along the canals, rubbish, drug dealing and speeding cars. A follow up meeting is scheduled for 12 September.
- 2.4 North Walsall partners are working with Pelsall Area Partnerships to address issues raised around off road bikes on the Donna Copper Memorial open space. A site visit has taken place with partners to gauge the best options for limiting access by off road bikes to the site. Our Neighbourhood Police have held a residents' meeting and collated intelligence which has led to two bikes being seized and a number of families warned that if they are identified as driving off road without being licensed an insured their bikes would be seized. Locations to limit access to the site have been agreed and will be implemented once agreed with relevant contractors. We are working with Canals and Rivers Trust to see if we can adjust the access route off Goscote Lane which should help deter access for off road bikes.
- 2.5 Leckie Road remains part of the police's main patrol strategy with cars racing up and down and acting in an anti-social manner. A camera has been installed at the location and the police feel they are having less calls about problems down there.

2.6 The police have highlighted a number of problems on the new development around Turnstone/Shearwater, etc . There has been a burglary down there and a number of theft from motor vehicles. Residents are voicing concern that it is quite dark down there as not all the lighting is up yet so this may be appealing to our local criminals. This is on the radar of a number of different agencies however the police believe they have it in hand.

2.7 A number of police surgeries, residents' meetings and neighbourhood watch meetings take place across North Walsall.

| Meeting | Date | Time | Where |
|--|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Agenda 21 (Birchills/Leamore residents) | 5 Sept 3 Oct | 7.30pm 7.30pm | Bentley Moor Social Club |
| Leamore Community Group | 13 Sept | 7-8pm | Colebatches Social Club |
| Mossley Residents meeting | 7 Sept 5 Oct | 7.00pm 7.00pm | Mattesley Court |

2.8 Cameras are deployed in different locations across North Walsall to tackle fly-tipping, anti-social behaviour and to assist with the detection of criminal activities. Covert cameras are also utilised. The distributions of cameras are decided at the monthly Confidential Partnership Tasking & Coordination Meeting.

| Reference | Installed at | Installing Agency | Purpose | Objective |
|---|---------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| ND1/ND2 Now combined to make one working camera | Old Birchills | Neighbourhood Management | To reduce crime & ASB and offer reassurance | To identify offenders to enable appropriate action to be taken |
| ND7 | Leckie Road | Neighbourhood Management | To reduce criminal activity and anti-social behaviour | To identify offenders and enable appropriate action to be taken. |
| ND8 Not panning due to go | In for repair | Neighbourhood Management | | |

| | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| in for repair | | | | |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|

2.9 West Midlands Fire Service, Area Partnerships and the Sure Start Centres have done an awareness campaign around car seat safety. Information included identifying whether a child still needed a seat legally. We are progressing this further by installing height charts at each Sure Start Centre so parents can easily identify whether their child needs a car seat.

2.10 West Midlands Fire Service are keen to promote their community members. As a West Midlands Fire Service community member you can make a difference by:

- Receiving the quarterly newsletter which will let you know what’s happening with the fire service and your communities.
- Read the monthly updates on safety campaigns and share this information with family, friends and colleagues.
- Get involved in the fire station open days.
- Become a volunteer to work at one of their two interactive centres or out in the community.
- Apply to become a part of the Young Firefighters Association/The Cadets if you are aged between 11-16.

For more information email communitymembership@wmfs.net or call 0121 380 7322. There is further information on the website www.wmfs.net

2.11 The next meeting for the Beechdale Library ‘Friends Of’ group (yet to be established) will take place on Friday 9 September at 2.30pm. Anyone able to help or offer a taster session in anything appropriate please contact Ness on 01922 653714.

2.12 Area Partnerships are working with Lefarge Tarmac on two community projects with Walsall Link Line and Green River Community Association. We are hoping to use the skills and resources of Lefarge Tarmac to help with a ramp and renovating a driveway.

2.13 Aspire2Engage Project – continuing our work in partnership with Walsall Football Club Community Programme, we are hosting two more showcase events.

Children and Young People’s Showcase Event – Wednesday 26th October, 10am – 2pm – Banks’ Stadium, Walsall FC.

Older People’s Showcase Event – Wednesday 16th November, 2pm-6pm, Walsall Town Hall. (We’ve managed to get one of the most famous current Black Country personalities to come along and open the event, **Doreen Tipton!**)

We are now taking bookings for stall holders for both events. In order to confirm your stall you need to make a payment of £5 (non-refundable). Please make a cheque payable to WFCCP or drop off an envelope with £5 to the Civic Reception marked for the attention of John Morris, Area Partnerships, Zone 1B. Please say which organisation it is from if this is not clear. Each stall will consist of one table and two chairs. Please let us know if you require a power source. Free tea, coffee, water and biscuits will be provided to stall holders. Both events are FREE to members of the public. Stall holders are welcome to charge for activities they will provide, e.g. facepainting.

3. Children and Young People: Improving safeguarding, learning and life chances for children and young people

- 3.1 Youth Support Service, Frank F Harrison and Blakenall Community Centre are co-ordinating activities with the support of Community Safety and Area Partnership to ensure there is less duplication.
- 3.2 Money from the Black Country Growth Deal will fund open space improvements along the Goscote Corridor, mainly on The Lea and Swannies Field. Planning consent was given in April. It is hoped that work will now start towards the end of September and be completed by January 2017.
- 3.3 Mossley residents are working with whg, Area Partnerships and Clean and Green to put together two celebration events which incorporates a skip day and litter pick with fun activities, potentially during October half term and to coincide with Keep Britain Tidy's The Great British Spring Clean on 3-5 March 2017. A bid is being put together to the lottery Celebrate fund.
- 3.4 The Bloxwich/Blakenall locality panels have funded parallel parenting sessions alongside a Friends programme which will engage with 24 parents and 24 children over two programmes. The Friends programme helps children and young people cope with feelings of fear, worry, and anxiety by teaching cognitive, behavioural, and emotional skills in a simple, well-structured format. Based on Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) the programmes enable children and young people to learn about the links between their thoughts, feelings and behaviour.
- 3.5 Birchills and Bloxwich/Blakenall Locality Panels are now meeting on a monthly basis offering partners the opportunity to attend and discuss complex cases in need of a multi agency approach. A number of difficult cases have been discussed and supported by agencies including CAMHS, Safeguarding, Troubled Families, and Housing Associations.
- 3.6 Area Partnerships have worked with the Canals and River Trust, Clean and Green, Premier Inn and Birchills Church of England Community Academy on 13 July to do a

litter pick in the surrounding area. We were helped by many parents and volunteers who joined the children after for refreshments supplied by Premier Inn. Canals and River Trust brought along their grappling boat and were able to give children the experience of going through a lock onboard a canal boat. Everyone had a fantastic day and a large amount of litter was collected from Old Birchills, Miner Street, the green behind Anchor House and the canal. All children taking part were given a certificate and goodie pack. We continue to work with Birchills Church of England Community Academy and are organising a clear up event with Reedswood E-Act Primary Academy for the Big Spring Clean from 3-5 March 2017.

- 3.7 Area Partnerships have made links with St Peter's and are now linking their youth providers with the commissioned provider for the area, Frank F Harrison, and the council's youth services to do some joint work in the locality of the church. St Peter's host a Stay and Play session on a Friday, 9.30-11 which is a term time session for children and their parents/carers, including breakfast, craft, games, music, songs, toys and lots of support and friendship. St Peter's also help those struggling with an addiction of any kind, through Betel of Britain. This runs every Wednesday from 7.30-9.30pm. The evening begins with a time of worship and Bible teaching and from 8.25 there is a drip in with a bite to eat and some friendly faces and support.
- 3.8 Carol Williams (Teenage Pregnancy Operational Lead) has sent through an update regarding the success of the Teen and Toddler Programme.

Dear all ,fantastic news , the teenage pregnancy rate in Walsall for quarter 2 2015 has again seen a reduction in conceptions, you can see from the table below that we have had the highest reduction for this quarter in comparison to our neighbours within the west midlands. You can also see that a number of areas have had significant increases.

The success of this reduction is the continued investment and support across the partnership however I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a particular evidenced based programme that has been hugely significant in supporting not only Walsall's reduction but that of other authority's, some our statistical neighbours who also invest in this programme.

| | June 15 | March 15 | Dec 14 | Sept 14 | June 14 | March 14 | % Change |
|------------|------------|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Birmingham | 28.6 | 27.6 | 25.2 | 24.0 | 21.7 | 26.2 | +31.8 |
| Coventry | 31.0 | 31.0 | 30.0 | 29.7 | 32.6 | 42.8 | -4.9 |
| Dudley | 26.5 | 23.7 | 33.8 | 26.3 | 24.2 | 32.9 | +9.5 |
| Sandwell | 28.7 | 31.0 | 44.9 | 36.9 | 35.0 | 35.9 | -18.0 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Solihull | 19.5 | 14.5 | 16.1 | 15.1 | 16.1 | 18.1 | +21.1 |
| Walsall | 28.0 | 32.1 | 35.7 | 35.5 | 39.6 | 39.5 | -29.3 |
| Wolverhampton | 34.1 | 25.2 | 28.7 | 25.0 | 28.6 | 36.6 | +19.2 |

The table below is evidence of the impact Teens and Toddlers has made and shows a clear correlation of the investment in targeting vulnerable young people and hotspot schools.

| | June 15 | March 15 | Dec 14 | Sept 14 | June 14 | March 14 | % change | Number of teens and toddlers programmes delivered |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---|
| Bolton | 28.2 | 29.2 | 23.0 | 19.8 | 26.8 | 25.5 | +5.2 | 2 |
| Manchester | 30.7 | 32.4 | 27.8 | 34.6 | 33.4 | 34.3 | -8.1 | 6 |
| Oldham | 17.2 | 25.9 | 34.0 | 23.9 | 47.1 | 34.1 | -63.5 | 16 |
| Rochdale | 17.9 | 25.9 | 25.0 | 30.3 | 34.1 | 33.4 | -47.5 | 16 |
| Tameside | 24.2 | 30.4 | 19.3 | 21.1 | 27.3 | 34.7 | -11.4 | 10 |
| Walsall | 28.0 | 32.1 | 35.7 | 35.5 | 39.6 | 39.5 | -29.3 | 8 |

During the last academic year Carol ran two programmes with Sheffield Academy, two with Grace Academy, one with Bloxwich Academy and one with pupils from across the Borough.

4. Business and Jobs: Supporting business to thrive and supporting local people into work

- 4.1 Job Centre Plus will be delivering their service from Blakenall and Birchills children's centres. This will include help in sourcing job offers, income support, information, advice and guidance relating to work.
- 4.2 Walsall Council is a delivery partner for the **Youth Employment Initiative (IMPACT)** programme being delivered across the Black country. IMPACT will provide a Black Country co-ordinated response that will truly engage NEETs/unemployed young people aged 16-29 and move them towards positive outcomes. The programme is targeted at supporting young residents who are unemployed, not in education and training and help them get closer to a positive outcomes such as mainstream education and training, employment, apprenticeships and traineeships.

Marginalised 15 year olds identified as at risk of becoming NEET are also eligible. Those marginalised communities who are unemployed, inactive, at risk of social inclusion will be specifically targeted to overcome barriers to participation. The Black Country wide programme will be a multi agency approach that offers a personalised and joined up provision of local services to support young people. A varied menu of provision will be offered by local authorities and their approved delivery partners and it is expected that these will include statutory, voluntary and commercial providers, delivering alternative innovative options to mainstream delivery including short courses, specialist vocational provision, and creative activity to develop self confidence and personal skills. More information is available from Claire Wills in Walsall Council - claire.wills@walsall.gov.uk

4.3 We are working with Work on the Horizon to address a gap in provision for the over 30s. This will ensure clients are able to accept work without hitting barriers.

Work on the Horizon offer information:

- advice and guidance on careers and skills
- training to help with things like building confidence and motivation
- job search support including interview techniques
- internet access for job-search & training activities
- Job related training and work experience opportunities
- training to help you up-skill and develop new skills
- practical help with work related costs like childcare and transport
- and lots more

See more at: <http://www.onestopemploymentsshop.co.uk> or ring 01922 496555

Big Lottery have provided funding to run a 3 year project ending 31/12/2019 enabling Work on the Horizon to deliver an outreach service '**Reaching Out**'. Aims are to engage with the unemployed people in the North Walsall Borough who have multiple barriers. To increase confidence and motivation levels, improve wellbeing, provide better chance in life and access training and development to improve life skills. The outreach is being run at various community locations with the four wards currently Bloxwich & Blakenall Libraries, Sure Starts - Blakenall & Birchills, Beechdale Housing Association, Leamore TMO and Pinfold Health Centre (new venues are constantly being sought to ensure full coverage of the local area).

Steps to Work are also leading on a Black Country wide project called Bridges, which is jointly funded by Big Lottery and European Social Fund.

BRIDGES can support anyone who is:

- 25 years and over
- Unemployed (cannot be in part time work or on 0 hours contract)
- Economically Inactive (including those not working who are claiming benefits)

- Has complex needs/multiple barriers which are impacting on being able to enter paid employment
- Requires support to fully and independently engage in existing services

The BRIDGES project can help you with any of the following, get in touch to find out more:

- Confidence and motivation
- One-to-one mentoring
- Information, advice and guidance
- CV and application form support
- Job search support
- Arts and crafts
- Volunteering opportunities

If you would like more information please call 01922 627555 or email enquiries@stepstowork.co.uk

5. Health and Well-Being: Improving health, including well-being and independence for older people

- 5.1 Mossley Estate over 50's Club, organised by and for local residents meet every Thursday 10am-12.00pm at Mattesley Court.
- 5.2 The Water Mill is hosting a Macmillan coffee morning on 30 September at 10.30am.
- 5.3 Area Partnerships are working with our Public Health colleagues to put on a social prescribing event on 5 October at Forest Arts Centre which is free and open to all community and voluntary organisation. Walsall Public Health is looking to invest in voluntary and community organisations to tackle loneliness and social isolation to improve the health and wellbeing of Walsall residents. They are seeking to develop a virtual health and wellbeing hub to improve links between health and social care services and local communities.

If you would like to find out more about how your project could:

- contribute to this exciting initiative
- receive funding to enhance your local community offer
- help improve the quality of life of local people
- receive support to develop evidence to help secure additional funding

the pop along to our North Walsall event or any of the listed below in other parts of the borough.

| | | |
|--------------|---------|---------------------------|
| 28 September | 10.30-3 | Aldridge Community Centre |
| 29 September | 10.30-3 | The Chart Centre |
| 30 September | 10.30-3 | Pelsall Village Centre |
| 5 October | 10.30-3 | Forest Arts Centre |
| 6 October | 10.30-3 | County Hotel |

To book a place please email EandEMgmtSuppt@walsall.gov.uk or call 01922 653747 for further information.

- 5.4 Beechdale Health Centre is hosting their Annual Health Fair on Saturday 17 September from 11am to 2pm at the Church Hall, Stephenson Square. All are welcome and admission is free.
- 5.5 St Giles Hospice in Goscote has launched a 24 hours, 365 days advice service for those suffering or caring for someone with life limiting illnesses. It can help with:
- Accessing support and services
 - Emotional support
 - Symptom control
 - Financial advice
 - Nutritional support
 - Access to specialist equipment
 - Coping with bereavement
 - Information on support groups

The number is 0300 330 9410 or you can email advice@stgileshospice.com
Calls are charged at a local rate.

- 5.6 St Thomas Church in Mossley have set up a mental health and wellbeing support group. If you suffer with stress, depression, anxiety or any other mental health condition come along and meet other people with shared experiences in a safe and confidential environment. Meetings are now held weekly on Tuesdays from 12-1 at St Thomas Church, Cresswell Crescent, Mossley. More details from Sara on 07586352810.
- 5.7 Sure Start Children's Centres have set up a Freedom Women's Support Programme to support those who have experienced domestic violence. All women are welcome to join and learn more about healthy and unhealthy relationships in a safe, non-judgemental environment. This is a 10 week rolling programme and women can join at any time during the programme. Please call 01922 646574 for more information.
- 5.8 Birchills Sure Start are establishing a Parent Forum once they have enough volunteers to attend. Other sessions taking place at the centre include Language Group, Messy Monkeys, Well Baby Clinic, Welfare Rights Drop in Session, Play and Saty with the Music Man, Post Natal Clinic, Care Leavers Group, Stop Smoking Clinic, Breastfeeding Support Group, Health Trainer and Stepping Stones. Some sessions have to be booked or are by referral. Please call 646574 for details.
- 5.9 Stan Ball now has a bereavement and social club taking place on Mondays from 2-3.30pm. Cost is £2 and all welcome.
- 5.10 Area Partnerships have funded Walsall Link Line with their Reaching Out project that will work with children to raise awareness of dementia. The project will link to uniformed activities, schools and youth clubs to do a series of workshops where children will be taught what to expect when a grandparent is diagnosed with dementia, how to maintain a relationship through the use of memory boxes and tools to alleviate fears that arise from some aspects of dementia. As part of this project

Green Lane Baptist Church will be hosting a session on 27 October (during half term) from 10-3, with lunch provided, to local families. More details to follow.

- 5.11 Area partnerships have been working with St Catherine's with St Chads and Green Lane Baptist Church on closer working relations. Kayon (from Green Lane) will be hosting some Mend It sessions at Walsall Link Line Centre fortnightly on Wednesday beginning in September/October. Mandy (Walsall Link Line) will be inviting the Mend It volunteers to training sessions and tea dances at the centre quarterly for training and monthly for the tea dances. Both centres will be working together to produce twiddle muffs, aprons and cushions for dementia sufferers and look to grow this into a social enterprise. Mandy will host some dementia and wellbeing sessions at Green Lane starting in September/October time.

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