

SAFER WALSALL BOROUGH PARTNERSHIP

BI-ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY BULLETIN

JUNE 2005



Working Together for Safer Communities



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Foreword

Welcome to the first edition of the Safer Walsall Borough Partnership's Community Bulletin.

This bulletin will provide an opportunity for the Partnership to show what progress we have made and where the issues surrounding crime and disorder are across the Borough.

Tackling crime and disorder is not the sole responsibility of any single agency. Making the Borough safer can only be achieved through a collective response, which includes active involvement of the community.

Our aim is to reduce crime by 20% over the forthcoming three years, keeping in line with the targets we have set through detailed consultation and analysis of crime and disorder across the Metropolitan Borough of Walsall.

It is this evidence based, multi-agency approach that will enable us to effectively tackle the issues that affect the community and its residents ensuring that we will continue to implement exciting and innovative Partnership projects in the future.

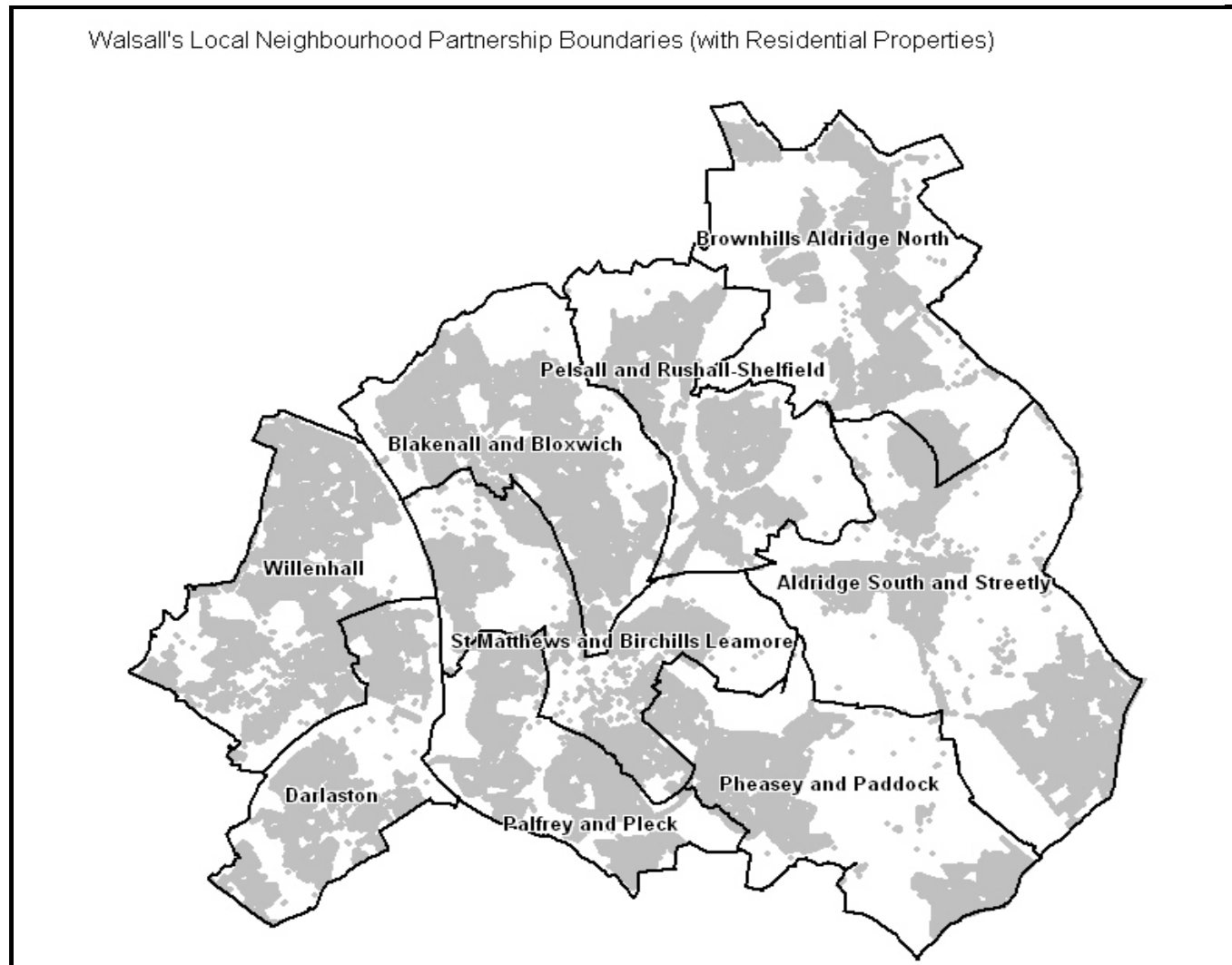
I hope you find the Bulletin useful and informative and look forward to hearing your views.

Nozmul Hussain
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Local Neighbourhood Partnership Areas



Partnership News



The Walsall Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and Drug Action Team (collectively known as the Safer Walsall Borough Partnership) recognises its special responsibility for achieving the particular vision of ensuring that by 2008, all people in Walsall are safe and secure and that year by year, Walsall becomes a much safer community.

The Drug Action Team have many initiatives in place offering support to drug users, their families and people who work with users. This includes a comprehensive policy for schools incorporating guidance from the Home Office.

There are a number of diversionary programmes including sports based activities and drug information/education sessions exploring the link between drugs and music.

The Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) was launched in Walsall in November 2004 as part of the government's strategy for tackling drug use and offending behaviour.

This is an innovative scheme created to direct adult drug using offenders out of crime and into treatment. All those offenders identified as having difficulties with drug use can now be tested, assessed, and diverted into appropriate treatment programmes. The programme also seeks to re-engage people who have dropped out of treatment in the past.

The community should begin to notice a real reduction in crime, as realistic alternative options to change old habits will be on offer. Changes in the Criminal Justice Act mean that all offenders returning to Walsall, after serving a period in custody, will be offered the chance to stay drug free and take up the offer of ongoing support or treatment in the community.

For further information about the Drug Interventions Programme, please call Marcia Minott on 01922 709189

The Borough Resource Allocation Group (BRAG) is a management group, who meet monthly, consisting of key partners and service providers who review and analyse current community safety data in a multi agency response. The group makes recommendations to the Partnership in order to meet the strategic objectives as outlined in the strategy.

Walsall Persistent Offender Programme (WALPOP) is a unique partnership approach to tackling crime in Walsall. The programme works closely with Probation, Police and drug treatment services.

WALPOP designs a bespoke programme for individuals following an initial visit to Prison or home, according to their needs. Offender Managers may offer help in areas of family support, drug intervention, homelessness, relationship issues, education/training and job searching.

There is little doubt that WALPOP is expanding and growing at a vast rate and is renowned as a unique enforcement tool due to the 'carrot and stick' approach. It is this pragmatic approach to offending that has build upon the Partnerships' success and has undeniably contributed to the reduction in crime across the Borough.

Anti-Social Behaviour Unit continues to target the most prolific perpetrators of crime and disorder and is strengthening its partnership arrangements with social landlords and statutory and voluntary sector bodies.

A priority of the unit is to get the message out to the public that for almost every ASB situation, an agency/service response for the problem already exists. All these bodies have the powers to apply for ASB orders in their own right. The unit does not operate as an 'initial response service' and as such all first time enquiries to the unit are being directed to the relevant service/agency.

In terms of outcomes, there are currently 71 active Anti-Social Behaviour Orders across the borough and reported breaches of ASBO's are now being more effectively managed. There are 8 current Dispersal Orders that have proved beneficial to the community. There are alcohol restricted areas in three town centres. Under new legislation, two houses dealing in Class A drugs have been closed (Crack House Closures). There are currently 7 of these orders in the West Midlands area, two of which are in Walsall.

West Midlands Fire Service in Walsall have four stations, Walsall, Willenhall, Bloxwich and Aldridge.

Much of the current work is aimed at prevention through education and advice. Partnership working has also been recognised as the best way forward and the Fire Service rarely embark on new projects without engaging with an agency such as the Police or local authority.

Fire fighters at every station have an arson awareness schools programme which fits into the National Curriculum. There are a number of intervention programmes in action and the latest drive is to visit homes and give free advice on home safety. Anyone can request a free home fire risk assessment. By telephoning our free phone number, 0800 389 5525, trained fire-fighters will then arrive at an agreed time to carry out this free fire safety check with the occupant.

APPENDICES



SAFER WALSALL BOROUGH PARTNERSHIP

CRIME FIGURES AND RATES BY LNP

2002-2005



Walsall Borough

Crime Figures

Total population (2001 Census)	253,499			
	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	% Change
Arson	476	386	258	-45.8% ↓
Burglary Dwelling	2,129	1,912	1,527	-28.3% ↓
Burglary Other Building	2,613	2,709	2,282	-12.7% ↓
Criminal Damage Other	613	719	672	9.6% ↑
Criminal Damage to Dwelling	1,742	1,655	1,479	-15.1% ↓
Criminal Damage to Other Building	842	902	836	-0.7% ↓
Criminal Damage to Vehicle	1,869	1,848	2,001	7.1% ↑
Drugs	792	710	664	-16.2% ↓
Other	5,345	5,042	4,632	-13.3% ↓
Racially Related Crime*	248	234	225	-9.3% ↓
Robbery - Business Property	45	38	24	-46.7% ↓
Robbery - Personal	451	398	350	-22.4% ↓
Sexual Offences	276	338	372	34.8% ↑
Theft from Motor Vehicle	3,050	2,605	2,148	-29.6% ↓
Theft from Person	515	436	302	-41.4% ↓
Theft from Shop/Stall	1,197	1,468	1,706	42.5% ↑
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1,708	1,814	1,456	-14.8% ↓
Vehicle Crime Other	454	559	312	-31.3% ↓
Violence Against A Person	4,836	5,317	5,338	10.4% ↑
TOTAL CRIME	28,953	28,856	26,359	-9.0% ↓

* NOT included in final figures due to Double Counting

* Rate is per 1000 households



Walsall Borough National Comparison

Crime Rates (per 1000 population)

Total population (2001 Census)	253,499				ENGLAND & WALES (LATEST RATES)	Performance
	WALSALL 2002-2003	WALSALL 2003-2004	WALSALL 2004-2005			
Arson	1.9	1.5	1.0	1.1	😊	
Burglary Dwelling*	21.0	18.9	15.0	18.6	😊	
Burglary Other Building	10.3	10.6	9.0	8.0	👎	
Criminal Damage Other	2.4	2.8	2.6	3.3	😊	
Criminal Damage to Dwelling	6.9	6.5	5.8	6.2	😊	
Criminal Damage to Other Building	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.5	😊	
Criminal Damage to Vehicle	7.3	7.3	7.9	8.8	😊	
Drugs	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.7	😊	
Other	20.9	19.8	18.2	-	-	
Racially Related Crime	1.0	0.9	0.9	-	-	
Robbery - Business Property	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	😊	
Robbery - Personal	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.8	😊	
Sexual Offences	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.0	👎	
Theft from Motor Vehicle	12.0	10.2	8.4	11.5	😊	
Theft from Person	2.0	1.7	1.2	2.4	😊	
Theft from Shop/Stall	4.7	5.8	6.7	5.8	👎	
Theft of Motor Vehicle	6.7	7.1	5.7	5.6	👎	
Vehicle Crime Other	1.8	2.2	1.2	-	-	
Violence Against A Person	19.0	20.8	21.0	18.4	👎	
TOTAL CRIME	114.7	114.2	103.5	114.0	😊	

*Rates per 1000 households

Key:

Performance of Borough vs National Rate



= BELOW NATIONAL RATE



= ABOVE NATIONAL RATE



= SAME AS NATIONAL RATE



Walsall Fire Statistics

Date	Property and vehicle fires *		Outdoor fires \$		Malicious false alarm calls attended by the Brigade #
	Total number	Arson	Total number	Arson	
2002/3	869	486	1,602	1,396	328
2003/4	882	532	2,118	1,859	311
2004/5	765	412	1,347	1,171	231

Apr-04	58	40	151	127	28
May-04	67	32	137	124	16
Jun-04	75	38	120	108	20
Jul-04	62	32	130	104	8
Aug-04	58	30	103	84	14
Sep-04	67	38	105	89	29
Oct-04	71	37	84	78	18
Nov-04	84	44	108	94	19
Dec-04	53	30	85	77	22
Jan-05	66	33	78	67	12
Feb-05	52	27	88	79	27
Mar-05	52	31	158	140	18
2004/5	765	412	1,347	1,171	231

* **Property and vehicle fires** include dwellings, vehicles, buildings other than dwellings (e.g. commercial property, schools) and other property (e.g. post boxes and recycling collection points).

\$ **Outdoor fires** include rubbish, grass, derelict building, road furniture, derelict vehicles and intentional burning.

The Brigade also receives some **malicious calls** that we don't attend.