

WILLENHALL AND SHORT HEATH AREA PANEL

Area Manager's Report

Tuesday 30th June 2015

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report seeks to inform Elected Members for the Willenhall and Short Heath Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within the local area.
- 1.2 Willenhall and Short Heath Area Partnership 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 Partners involved includes: Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Unit, Youth Support Services, West Midlands Police, residents, Ward Councillors, Walsall Housing Group (WHG), West Midlands Probation Service, Walsall Intelligence Network, Environmental Health, Reassurance Team, Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Willenhall and Short Heath Area Partnership, Public Health, Caldmoreaccord Housing Association, Walsall Voluntary Action, West Midlands Fire Service, Social Care and Inclusion, Area Family Support Team, Trading Standards, Community Development, Substance Matters, Willenhall CHART, Willenhall E-Act, Clean and Green, Sports and Leisure, Jobcentre Plus, Steps to Work, Darlaston JET, Welfare Rights, Walsall College, Holy Trinity Online Centre, Libraries

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

- 2.1 Crime and anti social behaviour continues to be discussed at the Confidential Tasking Meetings in Willenhall chaired by the Area Manager. Various partner agencies are involved in the discussions and actions undertaken to support those affected by the local issues.
- 2.2 Inspector Keeley Bevington and the local policing team have a policing strategy in place to ensure that different areas are covered within Willenhall & Short Heath.
They have undertaken reassurance events including at New Invention Library (in May), which entailed having a representative from the Brownhills Safe House providing information/leaflets and equipment to vulnerable adults.
- 2.3 The police have undertaken regular work with shop owners in Willenhall Town Centre and in the local community, to provide advice on reducing theft within their stores.
The ASB around the New Invention Square is reducing with local residents and business owners commenting to police that it has significantly improved. It remains a Hot Grid for regular targeted patrols by the PCSO's 3 times a day.
- 2.4 Previously there was a slight increase reported in the number of burglaries around Short Heath, this was nothing of significance and did not feature as an LPU hotspot however crime prevention was undertaken by officers in this area around target hardening and a letter drop of 500 leaflets to Short Heath area was completed, with increased patrols and this has impacted and crime remains low in this area.
- 2.5 Residents are asked to report Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) to the services/agencies directly:

Private residents can report matters directly to the Anti Social Behaviour Unit by any method below:

Telephone (01922) 648291 Email asb@walsall.gov.uk

It may also be possible that one of the following council departments can assist in the first instance:

- Walsall MBC 01922 650000
- Environmental Health 01922 652223
- Clean & Green 01922 653344
- Trading Standards 01922 652210
- Walsall Mediation 01922 637713

- 2.6 The Youth Support Service delivered a range of activities over the Whitsun Holiday period 26/05/15 – 30/05/15. Activities included mountain biking, excursions to adventure parks, healthy eating projects, multi-sports and creative arts projects.

During Summer 2015 Targeted Youth Support Service will be responding to concerns raised about incidents of young people involved in anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Targeted Youth Support Service have introduced a centralised system for reporting youth related ASB.

There is a dedicated email and phone number in place where organisations can report perceived or actual ASB. Detached Workers will respond to any referred incidents and compile an assessment which will be returned to the referring agency. This will feed back on the findings and action to be taken.

The Detached Youth Workers will signpost young people to Positive Activities in their local area or work more closely to involve them in a programme of informal learning opportunities within their community.

Organisations will be able to report their concerns by requesting a referral form from :youthasbreproting@walsall.gov.uk

or by leaving a message on the ASB reporting line 07894886708.

Calls and reports will be treated as confidential however one of the workers may need to contact the person who reported the incident for more information.

- 2.7 The Big Spring Clean for Willenhall and Short Heath has been completed.

The events ran from Monday 1st June – Friday 5th June and incorporated Rosehill Youth Centre, Rosehill Way, & surrounding streets/estate; Pinson Road: Memorial Park and the Walk Way; Moxhull Gardens: Moxhull Close; (Clay Hill): Dorchester Road; Rhys Thomas Close & surrounding streets/roads.

The clear up proved successful with representatives from different organisations contributing to the event.

whg provided skips at various locations; councillors, community volunteers, Helping Hands (litter picking company), Clean & Green and schools were also involved.

We had over 35 volunteer throughout the week assisting with the community Big Spring Clean.

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

3.1 Youth Services are currently still offered 4 nights a week with the detached team also being deployed 4 nights. Frank F Harrison Community Association are also commissioned to undertake some work in the area.

3.2 The Detached Youth Service are deployed into 'hot spot' areas, as identified by various partner agencies.

3.3 The Youth Service have a programme of activities for young people which has been publicised in schools. This is to enable the young people to access local activities

3.4 NOVA Training had an Open Day event on Wednesday 3rd June. The aim being to encourage local young people to take up various training opportunities linked to different trades/apprenticeships including hospitality, Business Admin; motor vehicle trades and retail.

3.5 The Challenge (formally the Challenge Network) held an event on Thursday 4th June at Forest Arts Centre, Hawbush Road, Walsall. The aim being to encourage young people to sign up to volunteering opportunities within the borough.

This programme is proving to be successful and The Challenge are linked to the 14-19 Strategy for increasing educational attainment across the borough.

3.6 The Lighthouse Children Centre are holding a Fun Day on Tuesday 21st July 11.00am- 3.00pm Venue: Heath Road Willenhall WV12 5EF (Beacon Primary School Field).

This also provide an opportunity to engage the community in different topics relevant to the local area.

3.7 The Walsall Young People Awards is a way of celebrating and recognising the efforts and achievements of young people aged 11-19 from across Walsall. This event follows the last three years successes and provides an opportunity to highlight all the positive contributions made by young people.

The awards are a chance for Walsall to recognise the hard work and value young people bring to their communities.

Nominations can be from anyone who has an involvement with young people including teachers, youth workers, sports coaches, volunteers, family and friends.

The Walsall Young People Awards 2015 is about recognising and celebrating effort, even if the young person did not win in their chosen field.

A panel of judges including young people will select a winner from each of the six categories. Every young person nominated will receive a certificate to recognise their achievements and efforts. Each winner will receive a trophy to be presented at the award ceremony.

The 4th Awards Evening is on Tuesday 7th July 2015 at Walsall College.

For more information about the awards call the Youth Support Services team on 01922 714966 or e-mail WalsallChildrenAward@Walsall.gov.uk
Online at www.mywalsall.org/positive

- 3.8 Books into Arts Festival. Willenhall Library are presenting a reading festival. It is to encourage individuals into the library, and also to promote bringing books to life, through plays and events.

The current festival is linked to creating a bandstand in the library space, where performers will read from different books.

Various activities are occurring throughout June to encourage schools to be involved in the Black Country Festival.

- Tuesday 14th July: 2.00pm- 3.00pm Ian Bott will be talking about black country murders.
- Wednesday 15th July Festival Finale 7.30pm – 10.00pm Storytelling Finale.

The public are encouraged to attend to support the arts/literacy events.

4. Business and Jobs: Supporting businesses to thrive and supporting local people in to work

- 4.1. Area Partnerships undertook a Community Networking event on Thursday 23rd April.

The event consisted of various partners engaged in delivering services in and around Willenhall & Short Heath.

Representatives included Walsall Voluntary Action, Wolverhampton University, Healthy Lifestyles Team, The Challenge Network and the Regeneration Team.

Presentations were delivered on Employment & Skills for the local area; The Challenge & Young People Volunteering; How to apply for Funding; Community Hubs; Green Pathways Project.

The event proved to be successful and we are having another Community Network Meeting on Thursday 24th September 2015 at CHART 19 Gomer Street, Willenhall.

- 4.2 On Friday 22nd May Area Partnerships undertook a borough wide conference at Forest Arts Centre, Hawbush Road, Leamore, Walsall, WS3 1AG Area Partnerships organised for Leesa Herbert, a national speaker from the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) to provide the Keynote Speech.

Leesa is Head of the Infrastructure Development Team within NCVO and leads on support to infrastructure organisations including the delivery of the Big Assist programme, the Cultural Commissioning programme and Funding Central as well as leading on NCVOs work with volunteer centres.

There were over 150 delegates, with representation from strategic leaders within their organisations to grass roots workers/volunteers.

Audience members included:

- Manor Farm Community Association; Walsall Voluntary Action; YMCA – Black Country Group; NACRO; Princes Trust; Age UK Walsall; Place of Refuge Community Church; Walsall Over 50's Forum
- There was a 'Market Place' where over 15 community groups and stakeholders will be promoting their services to the delegates.

Discussions centred on

- I. Walsall' s priorities and you: *mapping exercise of current delivery against the 4 area plan priorities*
- II. Challenges nationally and locally: *budget, community sector working closely together, accessing external funding, capacity building, empowering*
- III. Working together for Walsall: *Covering the Hub model, challenges, opportunities and responsiveness from all*

Area Partnerships are progressing the work further with strategic managers, delegates and local organisations.

- 4.3 The 'Useful Contact List' for Willenhall & Short Heath has been created and shared with various agencies.
The feedback from groups is that it is a good way to enable local groups to be in contact with each other and to share local expertise.

5.0 Health and Well-Being: Improving health, including well-being and

independence for older people

5.1 Walsall Dementia Cafes- Timetable 2015

Janine Hayes, Dementia Café Co-ordinator/Mind Matters Co-ordinator, Pathways 4 Life; runs various Dementia Cafes' across Walsall. They operate at CHART 2.00pm - 4.00pm on these dates:

8 th July	12 th August	9 th September	14 th October	11 th November	9 th December
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For more information contact: janine.hayes@accordha.org.uk

5.2 Clean & Green and Area Partnerships are developing a Green Pathways Project.

The project centres on a healthier and active lifestyle. An inaugural event was held on Saturday 30th May, 2015, which centred on informing the communities of the different opportunities linked to their well-being.

Youth Support Services, Library Service, Willenhall Aywe, Coltham Road Photography Club, Clean & Green, Police, various volunteers and the Reach Tower were on site to engage the community.

The Feedback from participants identified that it was a very productive day,

Reach Up Climbing Tower Statistics: Total users = 57

Male=35 Female=22

Age	M	-	F
8	3	-	2
9	3	-	0
10	3	-	0
11	11	-	5
12	3	-	3
13	2	-	0
14	0	-	2

Others 20 (adults)

5.3 Sarah Wright from British Gas has been promoting an insulation scheme with whg.

British Gas are keen to expand the opportunity to private households in the area.

There is a cost to the work, however British Gas have commented that they would be able to negotiate with individuals to try to meet their personal circumstances, as funding is being made available via central government to reduce costs to all households.

For further information www.ecobritishgas.co.uk

5.4 Mindful gifts is a Community interest Company specialising in gift ideas and activities for people with dementia and older people.

- They have a shop in Darlaston, Walsall, which is the first of its kind in the country.
- They can run one days training on 'Dementia Culture Awareness'.

Contact Vicki Phipps; Founder / Director; Mindful Gifts CIC; Contact details <http://www.mindfulgifts.co.uk> Tel 07828 935451 or 01922 495994 Email: mindful.gifts@yahoo.com

5.5 Further events can be found at <http://www.whatsonwalsall.co.uk/>

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