

DARLASTON AND BENTLEY AREA PANEL

Area Manager's Report

12th September 2016

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.2 This report is designed to inform Elected Members for the Darlaston and Bentley Area Partnership of some of the work carried out within the local area.

1.3 Darlaston South and Darlaston North and Bentley has a number of key priorities which have been identified through work with partner agencies, Walsall Intelligence Network and the local community.

2.0 The strategic priorities are:

2.1 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.

3.0 Safer Walsall: Creating safe, sustainable and inclusive communities

3.1 Strategic partners include; West Midlands Police, Walsall Council Community Safety Team, Integrated Young Peoples Support Services, Clean and Green Services, Reassurance Team, Social Care and Inclusion, Area Family Support Team, Environmental Health, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmore/Accord Housing, Heantun Housing, Sanctuary Housing, Victim Support.

3.2 In recent months the Darlaston Confidential Tasking Meeting attended by colleagues in the area as mentioned above has not been provided with data intelligence as previously provided to meetings. This has allowed for a number of conversations with partners to discuss priorities moving forward and how to ensure communication and joint partnership interventions are maintained. It has been agreed that a number of estate tours / reassurance visits arranged based on locations highlighted by local people / partners / councillors. In addition it has also been agreed that a joint meeting is to be arranged to assist organisations who have received Walsall Council commissioned funds to deliver youth activities to make better links with enforcement agencies so that signposting and referrals can be made.

3.3 In light of recent changes mentioned in 3.2 it is vital that local residents are encouraged to report issues to appropriate agencies and a leaflet of useful numbers is being produced for future estate tours to provide to residents.

3.4 Darlaston Neighbourhood Team are delivering a programme around youth related ASB across the area aiming to highlight the consequences to young people and parents / carers. This is being supported by partner agencies locally to ensure a joined up approach in understanding the impact of ASB for example on tenancy agreements and also new legislation in place such as Community Protection Notices.

3.5 The Boat Public House has continued to see issues arise on the site however Walsall Council has issued a notice on the owner of this site in order to deal with the void premises and prevent future incidents.

3.6 Caldmore Accord Housing and Walsall Council Youth Service are working with Police and Community Protection colleagues to deal with issues around Pattern Drive, Darlaston. A joint intervention is being planned to carry out consultation with young people and families around the area to identify potential

interest in the green space nearby so that detached workers can deliver activities from the area and to reduce the complaints made regarding ASB on this estate.

3.7 A number of litter picks took place in June through to September to address and raise awareness of litter and fly tipping issues across the area. Partners involved included Grace Academy students, Darlaston Rotary Club, Walsall Cooperative, Tesco Willenhall, Police, Fire, Clean and Green, Canals and Rivers Trust and local residents and councillors. Future litter picks will be incorporated into estate tours.

3.8 Fly tipping and litter continue to be an issue across the area with a number of locations seeing a large amount of litter and fly tipping incidents. A steering group is being put together including Clean and Green, Community Payback, Environmental Health and Highways to map the most problematic locations, arrange site visits and create an action plan of joint interventions. Focus will continue to be in schools in the new academic year to raise awareness and educate young people on this issue with more litter picks planned with Grace Academy throughout the year.

3.9 The Walsall Void Properties Steering Group continues to meet on a regular basis to discuss complex cases across the area and notable sites. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting regarding this group.

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

4.1 Strategic Partners include; Integrated Youth Support Services, Bentley West Children's Centre, Darlaston Sure Start, Area Family Support Team, Grace Academy, Darlaston Schools Cluster, Walsall Housing Group, West Midlands Police, Moxley Community Hub Project Management Group, Old Hall People's Partnership.

4.2 A week long programme of activities was provided in the first week of the school holidays in George Rose Park and King's Hill Park. Sport and Leisure, WM Fire Service and Darlaston Sure Start attended each day and ran free family activities in the park. Attendance and feedback from local families was excellent seeing the same people coming back each day. Feedback from partners who attended was also positive and there is a commitment to deliver future activities again.

4.3 Kic FM delivered a successful programme of activities also during the holidays for young people from Rough Hay Community Centre, Old Church Primary School and have also been supporting Old Hall People's Partnership to carry out community consultation with local residents during the summer.

4.4 Talent Match are working with the Area Partnership to reach more young people suitable to access employment and training support from the programme which is specifically targeting the Darlaston area. Significant investment into the programme allows young people to access mentors, advice, guidance, apprenticeships, volunteering opportunities and employment. Contact details for the Programme Manager – Mike Sailsman msailsman@bctalentmatch.com 01902 328973

4.5 Old Hall People's Partnership opened their Pocket Park at a well attended launch event seeing lots of families visit the new facility. The park is now open and available for local people to use and enjoy.

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

5.1 Strategic partners include; Walsall Council Economic Regeneration, Welfare Rights, District Centre Management, Walsall College, Walsall Housing Group, Caldmore/ Accord Housing, Moxley People's Centre

5.2 WACC are currently delivering support to people via the City Deal Programme for Darlaston South area from Moorcroft Wood Education Centre on a weekly basis.

5.3 Old Hall People's Partnership are continuing to provide support for people with additional needs including young people looking for employment from Wing Close.

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

6.1 Strategic partners include; Walsall Council Public Health, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group, Walsall Council Sports Development, Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust, Integrated Young People's Support Services, Walsall Housing Group, Social Care and Inclusion, Darlaston Sure Start.

6.2 Old Hall People's Partnership have started a new project called MATES where adults with learning disabilities can enjoy themselves and make friends in a safe and supported environment. Activities are for 18+ and take part Tuesdays 10am-3pm.

6.3 Funding is available to voluntary and community organisations from Walsall Council Public Health Commissioner for Older People's Services to prevent isolation and build resilience in communities. A joint event has been organised with Willenhall AP on Thursday 29th September at CHART Centre, Gomer St, 10am to find out more about funds available and outcomes expected by Public Health.

6.4 Darlaston Area Partnership is part of a new strategic group of CCG Walsall Together – Resilient Communities strand. Mapping has been undertaken of local organisations and services for the area.

6.5 Teens and Toddlers (funded by AP) has recently reported that Walsall has seen a significant reduction in teenage pregnancies across the borough compared to other neighbouring authorities. The programme manager has contact the AP to thank all areas for funding which has significantly contributed towards achieving this outcome.

6.6 A joint project is planned with Public Health to encourage more local people to access a free health check. NHS Health Check is a free national screening programme for the 40 – 74 year age group, who do not have an existing cardiovascular condition. This national screening programme will help to prevent the onset of stroke, heart disease, type II diabetes and kidney disease and increase awareness of the lifestyle behaviour associated with the onset of dementia. Everyone is at risk of developing heart disease, stroke, type II diabetes or kidney disease and as you get older the chances of you developing these conditions increases. The good news is that these conditions can often be prevented – even if you have a history of them in your family. The NHS Health Check will include questions about family history and lifestyle, and assessments of blood pressure, cholesterol, blood glucose and body mass index. A cardiovascular risk assessment score will be calculated, followed by advice on how an individual can change their lifestyle to help their heart health.

7.0 Other activities

7.1 The Area Partnership working with City Deal Community has organised a number of network breakfast events with the next one being 21st September at Darlaston Town FC at 8.30am

7.2 External Funding Team is currently supporting a number of organisations in the area with applications including Mindful Gifts, Kic FM, Old Hall People's Partnership and Darlaston Youth Centre.

Nicola Holmes
Area Manager

07539 222875

nicola.holmes@walsall.gov.uk