

# **Whitefield & Unsworth Township Action Plan**

**2012-13:**

**Performance Report**

## **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report outlines the performance of the Whitefield and Unsworth Township Forum and the progress on each of the themes contained within the Whitefield and Unsworth Township Action Plan for 2012-13. The information provided has been gathered from a number of qualitative and quantitative sources including Bury Insight, Index of Multiple Deprivation, Area Profile Data and various local community intelligence.
- 1.2 There are currently 5 key thematic priorities contained within the Whitefield and Unsworth Action Plan for 2012/13:
- Improved Health and Wellbeing
  - Improved Employment Opportunities
  - Educational Attainment and Learning
  - Improved Community Safety
  - Improved Community Pride and Belonging

This report provides a summary of the overall performance for each of the themes and the projects which contribute to their delivery.

- 1.3 Where possible both quantitative and qualitative data sources have been used to demonstrate the progress that has been made by the Township Forum on each theme.
- 1.4 The detail of this performance report can be viewed on the Township Forum web pages at [www.bury.gov.uk/townshipforums](http://www.bury.gov.uk/townshipforums). If you require copies of the report please contact Kim Griffiths on 0161 253 6349

## IMPROVED HEALTH AND WELLBEING

### Project Overview (Aims & Outputs)

### Project Updates

#### What We Promised

- Take health to communities- Re-instate Besses Health Group to work together to close gaps in health inequalities, create a plan to include health awareness days, exercise smoking cessation etc
- Explore possibility of pharmacy in Besses Ward
- Take people to health- work with first bus to improve bus services to Blackford House Health Centre
- Encourage healthy eating and healthy lifestyles- development of allotments at Boz Park

#### What We Did

- Identified potential issues around welfare reforms- People needing help with this have been identified via children's centre, housing providers and self referral
- Application for Pharmacy has been made and refused twice. Applicant will be appealing this last decision
- Meetings held with first Bus and attendance by first Bus Director at Township Forum meetings. A group of people, led by Councillor Grimshaw attended Transport meeting in Manchester to lobby for extra and reinstatement of services
- Allotments at Boz Park still needing investigation

#### Successes to Date

- A morning event held in April 2013 to deliver information on welfare reforms. Information presented by CAB, Children's Centre, Contour homes, Housing Benefits and Six Town staff on hand for information. Although numbers attending were low, 6 members of the public, 3 councillors and above staff, all in attendance said that they found it useful
- Backing of Pharmacy application by Township Forum and Ivan Lewis MP.
- Successful reinstatement of bus services and improvements to existing services. Now a service to Pilsworth and to Whitefield centre
- Meeting with allotment provider. This needs to be followed up

#### Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Numbers attending welfare reform information events have been low across the Borough. Need to look at creative ways to engage people and get information to them
- Continue to support pharmacy for Hillock Estate
- Continue to monitor and support demands for bus routes and services.
- Concerns re future ranger support- continue to look at Allotment space

## IMPROVED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

#### What We Promised

- Bring work to people- regular and reliable bus service needed to Pilsworth
- Encourage new businesses to set up in Pilsworth
- Promote "Backing Young Bury" with local businesses
- Explore possibility of job clubs/fairs and raise awareness of opportunities

#### What We Did

- See above- lobbying and meetings to get bus service to Pilsworth
- "Backing Young Bury" presented to business group
- Besses Children's centre have job club set up on site. Member of staff trained to deliver the job club, help people write CVs etc.
- Volunteer working also from Childrens centre

### Project Updates

#### Successes to Date

- Bus service re-instated and running regularly during the day to Pilsworth
- Some interest has been shown but site designated employment land and council promoting this area for office or other use, not retail.
- Job centre at Besses Children's Centre

#### Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Monitor bus services to avoid losing them again.
- Hope that regular bus service provision will be an attraction for businesses to locate to Pilsworth
- Promote Job Club and volunteering opportunities and try to get people back to work

## IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT/LEARNING

### Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

#### What We Promised

- Improve information sharing across agencies to deal with most complex families- explore more inter-agency working
- Ensure children are school ready-support for parents and encourage early reading
- Training for adults

#### What We Did

- Re-established Health and Inequalities Group
- Successful discussions to obtain additional building provision in the old Arc building at Whitefield primary school.

### Project Updates

#### Successes to Date

- Satellite provision almost ready at building at Whitefield Primary School. Will be used to provide more Children's Centre Services in the Victoria area.
- Target 2's 9 week course provided by Besses Children's Centre – enabling parents to recognise the importance of school readiness.
- Hanen-You Make The Difference 9 week course provided by Besses Children's Centre to promote speech, language, communication, school readiness and parents-child interaction.
- Speech and Language screening for 2 year olds signposting to Speech Therapist if necessary.
- 107 people have obtained accredited training (Numeracy, Literacy, Paediatric 1<sup>st</sup> Aid, Food Hygiene) to help improve their life chances and further their development.
- 310 people have accessed smaller courses/training i.e. Baby Signing, Baby Massage, Webster Stratton, I.T, ESOL, E-Safety, Safety In The Home

#### Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Establish sessions and build confidence in new provision to get good use from it, engaging the most hard to reach families.

## IMPROVED COMMUNITY SAFETY

### Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

### Project Updates

#### What We Promised

- Improve communication of good news-regular reports to township forums of successful partnership work
- Proactive work with young people- work with volunteers to provide youth facilities and activities
- Hold youth PACT meeting

#### What We Did

- Regular monthly meetings being held with range of key partners, housing providers, youth services, police, environmental health, rangers.
- Introduce youth facilities for Victoria Estate
- Youth PACTS piloted in Whitefield as result of discussions at partner meeting. A group of young men that came wanted skateboard facilities. Started well but no longer meeting as a group.

#### Successes to Date

- Examples of regular partnership meeting successes  
Identification of possible deer stalking in parklands  
PACT meeting and Youth PACT  
Joint messages re insecurities/ property and personal safety and reassurance messages  
Joint work between police and Six Town Housing on Victoria Estate- see below
- Six Town housing/ police partnership successful in setting up community facility and youth club at the New Jerusalem Church Building on Victoria Estate. Volunteers from the estate trained in youth work, first aid and basic food hygiene  
70 young people attending youth club as well as Zumba classes community meetings and worship

#### Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Continue with partner meetings under new area policing arrangements
- Monitor and expand on success at Victoria
- Look at engagement of young people and youth PACT / forum meetings

## IMPROVED COMMUNITY PRIDE AND BELONGING

### Project Overview (Aims & Objectives)

### Project Updates

#### What We Promised

- Promote pride and responsibility around litter and graffiti- positive promotion of Whitefield and Unsworth as a nice place to live.
- Identify and report litter and grot spots
- Support for parks groups- protection of parks and conservation areas
- Support parks events- Boz park fun day, Halloween festival
- Holiday activities for young people

#### What We Did

- Positive promotion via events, publicity
- Met with young people and encouraged them to join Friends of Whitefield parks
- Mini Olympics Victoria Park Whitefield Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July- groundwork and Council Sports and Physical Activity Service (SAPAS)
- Multi Sport activities 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> August at Boz park- provided by SAPAS, funded by Friends of Boz Park

#### Successes to Date

- Positive promotion at Torch relay, Halloween festival
- Attempted to get skateboard group to join Friends of parks but no rep has yet come forward.
- Halloween festival completed- Activities during the whole of half term week up to Halloween. Main event Halloween fest on 28<sup>th</sup> October in Hamilton Road and Victoria Park, followed by a lantern walk in the evening

#### Areas of Concern/Next Steps

- Future of events and support for events due to changes and reduction to ranger service. Community led events will have to be supported in other ways- investigate ways that events can be delivered locally
- Young people need a strong focus to keep them engaged- facing negativity due to current cuts etc and soon became disillusioned
- Cancellation of Boz park event in 2012 due to adverse weather conditions. None planned for this year due to cuts. Further exploration of future event- community led

## Summary of Township Forum in 2012-13

### Area Plan

Over the past year, Whitefield and Unsworth Township Forum produced a Township Plan, to identify priorities where, by working together with local councillors, community representatives, residents, local groups, and partner agencies, they can make a difference to improve life for all residents. The Township Plan includes an annual action plan that has been reported on at Township Forum meetings. This action plan includes the key projects and actions to be delivered over the coming year which contribute towards delivery of the over arching local priorities agreed by the Township Forum.

The Township Plans was developed through active engagement and discussions with Township Forum members - including both Councillors and Advisory Group members. 'Round table' discussions were held to provide an opportunity for wider community representatives, partner organisations and residents to get involved in agreeing local priorities. This will be repeated for 2013-14

### Attendance

Whitefield and Unsworth meetings are the best attended of all the Township Forums in the Borough. Figures for attendance are below. In addition, at a separate meeting with first bus managers to discuss issues around bus services last November, 94 members of the public attended.

	<b>Nov 2011</b>	<b>Feb 2012</b>	<b>Mar 2012</b>	<b>June 2012</b>	<b>July 2012</b>	<b>Sep 2012</b>	<b>Nov 2012</b>	<b>Feb 2013</b>	<b>March 2013</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>W&amp;U</b>	40	35	27	22	33	50	45	28	26	<b>34</b>

### Advisory Group involvement:

Each Township Forum appoints Advisory Group members to contribute and speak on relevant issues. They help to improve the range of knowledge and expertise on the Township Forum and provide an inclusive approach to improving the outcomes for each area. In particular, they champion or lead projects within Township Plans.

## **Presentations / Consultation with Township forums**

The value of the Township Forums is recognised in major public consultation exercises. During 2012/13 this has included:

- Plan for Change
- Council Budget
- Presentations on major changes to health services in the borough (Clinical Commissioning Groups and Health and Wellbeing Board)
- Council Tax Support Scheme
- Welfare Reform
- Recycling and waste management updates
- Streetsafe – proposed introduction of 20mph zones

## **Community Fund**

The Council continues to allocate £1,000 per ward each year to support the work of voluntary and community groups. Individual grants to the 'ward fund' are available for a maximum of £250. Additionally, a borough-wide allocation of £13,000 is available for 'cross-ward' applications from third sector organisations, with a maximum individual grant of £750. Small grants funds are also available for grants of up to £12,000.