

WHITEFIELD & UNSWORTH TOWNSHIP FORUM

Whitefield & Unsworth Town Plan

2015 - 2018



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Welcome to Whitefield & Unsworth Local Community Plan

Thank you for taking the time to read the Whitefield and Unsworth Township Plan. This document provides details on how we plan to tackle some of the local issues we face as a community.

Over the past months, we have had round table discussions at Township forum meetings where Councillors, Community representatives and other members of the public were present and able to give us their views and share ideas. From this, and other statistical information, we have been able to identify our priority areas for the next three years.

This plan outlines how we will continue to make progress towards the vision for our Township to promote better outcomes for the social, health, economic, and environmental well being of people within our community.

Despite the challenging economic climate we continue to strive for improvement, working together with our communities and partner agencies such as the Council, Police and Fire service, health services, faith groups and so on. We have a strong, dedicated, skilled and committed partnership that is working on a range of projects to help us deliver our priorities and improve the quality of life for residents in our community. Bury Council has a number of key outcomes that underpin its work; delivery of this plan will support these outcomes:

- Reducing poverty and its effects
- Supporting our most vulnerable residents
- Making Bury a better place to live
- One Council, One success together

We would like to thank all our partners and residents for their continued efforts in supporting the Township Forum and the important work it does for the community of Whitefield and Unsworth.



David Jones

Councillor David Jones
Chair, Whitefield & Unsworth Township Forum

Who we are and what we do

Whitefield and Unsworth Township Forum welcomes those who live, work, or have an interest in the area. The forum meets at local venues such as community centres and schools. These meetings are public meetings and we strongly encourage everyone to come along. Discussions are fed back to Bury Council and its partners for appropriate action.

Whitefield and Unsworth Township Forum is a constituted council committee consisting of all the elected members representing our area and a co-opted advisory group of local representatives from the business community, voluntary organisations and community groups. There are up to nine members on each Advisory Group and a place is also reserved for a young person's representative.

The forum empowers our communities, promotes the debate of local issues and brings decision making closer to our residents. It seeks to harness the many strengths and assets we have in place here in Whitefield and Unsworth, including local groups, strong community networks, talented young people, charities and voluntary groups, to work through these issues as a strong and committed partnership.



For further information about your Township Forum please visit www.bury.gov.uk/townshipforums or contact:

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Some facts about Whitefield & Unsworth

(Demographic information changed June 2015 to reflect 2011 census data)

Demography:

Bury has a population of 186,527. Of these, approximately 29,955 live in Whitefield and Unsworth. Of the population of Whitefield and Unsworth, 60.5% are Christian, 11.4% are Jewish, 3.5% Muslim, and 23.2% have no religion or do not say what religion they are.

Deprivation:

In terms of measuring deprivation, England is split into small areas called super output areas (SOA). Each SOA represents approximately 1500 residents. And deprivation is measured over 7 domains: income, employment, health, disability, education and training, barriers to housing and services, living environment and crime. In England there are 32 482 SOAs. In the borough of Bury there are 120 SOAs. Each SOA is given a ranking, with 1 being most deprived.

Whitefield and Unsworth has 3 super output areas in the top 10% for England. 2 of these are concentrated in Besses ward and one in Unsworth (bordering the Besses Ward). Conversely, Stand and Outwood are within the 15% least deprived SOAs in the country.

Closing the gap:

Although Whitefield and Unsworth are generally seen as an affluent area, there are clearly pockets of deprivation and inequalities, which adversely affect the life chances of many people who live in them. These inequalities between our neighbourhoods mean poorer health, lower levels of education and skills, higher crime and unemployment for people living in these areas. The Town Plan aims to close the gap so that the lives of those in the most deprived areas are improved.

Our Assets:

Whitefield and Unsworth has much to be proud of, it is a popular place to live, it has some beautiful parks and green spaces, and active and enthusiastic friends groups to ensure that these spaces are well maintained, including the hugely popular Eden Garden Allotments who stage regular educational open days and sell produce grown on site. The area is diverse and the interfaith group in Whitefield celebrates the different religions and cultures. There are also thriving sports clubs, uniformed organizations, and active tenants and residents groups that are well represented on the Township Forum, so all in all there is a lot to be celebrated in this area.



**Whitefield and
Unsworth Township
Forum aims to promote
better outcomes for the
social, health,
economic, and
environmental well
being of people within
our community.**

**We can achieve this by
working together to
achieve a number of key
outcomes:**

Together we can achieve more!

Key Outcomes:

Our plan will contribute to the following outcomes:

- Improved Health and Wellbeing
- Improved Employment Opportunities
- Educational Attainment/Learning
- Community Safety
- Community Pride and Belonging.

Making a difference

We will measure our performance as follows:

- We will monitor the action plans which support delivery of these outcomes (updated action plans will be shared at each meeting)
- Bi-annual performance reports in relation to the above outcomes (presented to our Township Forum).

Everybody's involved

Our Township Plan has been drawn together in a number of ways. We have used our knowledge of local people's priorities to focus on those issues which matter most to local people.

Key Group	How have they influenced the Township Plan?
Residents & Community Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation activities • Township Forums - open forum issues and round table discussions • PACT meetings
Councillors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct involvement in the development of the objectives for this plan • Consultation activities • Township Forums
Research and Demographic Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National research and intelligence • Local Health Data • Ward profiles • Intelligence gathering
Partner Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police and partner meetings • Six Town Housing • Council departments • Primary Care Trust/Health Authority

There will be further opportunities for you to **get involved** and **have your say** on a range of issues. Your views are really important to us so make sure you take part. Please come along to our Township meetings- you will be made very welcome.

Whitefield & Unsworth Township Forum

Our Township Plan

2015 - 2018

(September 2015 update)

Outcome: Improved Health and Wellbeing

Health inequalities need to be addressed in key areas around the Besses area - in the top 10% Super output areas nationally.

ISSUE What needs to be achieved	ACTIONS/OUTPUTS How can we work towards addressing the issue?	LEAD AGENCY Who should take responsibility?	MILESTONE	By when?
Creating a Dementia friendly Community for Unsworth	Consult with people living with dementia & their carers to get a mandate to focus on key areas of the Dementia Friendly Communities ten point plan.	Alzheimer's Society Making Space	Workshops and intelligence gathering	Completed
	Consultation on the High Street for businesses to buy in to staff awareness sessions, environment checks and DAA Supporter Status	Alzheimer's Society Making Space Township Coordinator	Business register as members, update Action Plans to national website	Ongoing
	Recruiting a Project Steering Group for Unsworth Pilot area	Alzheimer's Society	Workshops and intelligence gathering	Completed
	Support carer's information and support programme. Supporting the wider family especially in initial diagnosis/between transitional care homes	Alzheimer's Society Making Space Township Coordinator	Distribution of information and take up of course	September 2015
	Volunteer recruitment Networking. Include the wider community.			

	Increase diagnosis by increasing awareness	Alzheimer's Society Making Space Township Coordinator	Dementia awareness sessions within GP practices Borough-wide	Ongoing
	Promote Dementia Friendly Cafes	Township Coordinator Councillors Making Spaces	Distribution of information	Ongoing
Improving childhood health	Encourage healthy eating & grow your own with promotions through development of allotments sites at Eden Gardens	Eden Gardens committee	Investigate potential for funding. Open Days.	Ongoing
	Good quality food to be available in all schools	Health and Wellbeing Board		
	Ensure parks and play areas offer good quality exercise equipment	Parks Dept	Increased usage of parks	Ongoing
Increase participation in sport and physical activity by women and girls	Encourage existing sessions to become IWIYW branded incorporate increase awareness and benefits and participants	IWIYW	Increased publicity of branded sessions & Locality Network	December 2016
	Ensure appropriate activities are delivered in Whitefield to engage with women and girls	IWIYW	Delivery through Locality Networking sessions	December 2016
	Publicise outdoor gym in Hamilton Road Park	IWIYW Township Coordinator	Promotions of outdoor gym	Ongoing
	Promote community funding	IWIYW Township Coordinator	Distribution of information to community members	March 2016
	Identify an IWIYW Champion	Township Forum Members	To lead on key messages and encourage others to	Ongoing

	from the Township Forum		sign up	
A growth in participation across the life course	Deliver activities which engage with communities and attract more people into regular physical activity and sport opportunities	Sports and Physical Activity Services (SAPAS) Sports Clubs		
Reduce Social Isolation and loneliness	Raise awareness of befriending schemes (Jigsaw) and how to volunteer Community wide initiative: Children cards for older people, - use community partners (churches, groups, schools). Come together for social aspects – encourage health walks with IWIYW Work with local GPs and have a prescription to use local social enterprise bistro	Health and Wellbeing Board Health and Wellbeing Board Health and Wellbeing Board IWIYW Health and Wellbeing Board		
Improving Access to Healthcare	Deliver Pharmacy in Besses Delivery of the Radcliffe Pilot into Whitefield	Health and Wellbeing Board Health and Wellbeing Board		
Community provision of life saving equipment	Provision of local defibrillators at key sites within Whitefield	Health and Wellbeing Board		
Reduce fuel poverty and its affects	Promote 'Little Bill' to enable access to energy efficiency savings for households in	Energy Officer Township Forum	Promotion via schools, Children services and other organizations and events	December 2015

	Whitefield/Unsworth		Results at end of financial year on number of measures installed, estimated savings etc	
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Outcome: Improved Employment Opportunities

Besses Ward has 6.1% job seeker allowance claimants. Of the 263 JSA claimants in Besses ward, 115 are youth claimants – this is the 4th highest in the Borough. Seeking and getting to work may mean travelling outside the immediate area, and poor transport links to some employment sites makes it difficult.

ISSUE What needs to be achieved	ACTIONS/OUTPUTS How can we work towards addressing the issue?	LEAD AGENCY Who should take responsibility?	MILESTONE	By when?
Reintroduce Work Experience in Schools	Work with Local Education Authority and get young people ready for work	Schools – Board of Governors		Sept 2016
Pilsworth	Promote the re-use and development of vacant sites for employment uses	Strategic Planning & Economic Development Development Management		Ongoing
Effectiveness of Children's Centres	Job opportunities for young parents Under 2 provision in school (not school ready impacts on lifelong choices)	Whitefield HUB children's centre Whitefield HUB children's centre		Ongoing Ongoing
Opportunities for training and adult learning to support employability	Literacy and numeracy training & CV assistance courses through Besses Children Centre – increasing number of people equipped with skills to find work	Bury College Whitefield HUB children's centre	Training delivered locally	Ongoing

	Pre-work training and confidence building	Adult Learning Job Centre Plus	Training delivered locally	Ongoing
	Encourage/promote training courses, apprenticeships, jobs	Township Coordinator	Wider promotions	

Outcome: Improved Educational Attainment/Learning

Whitefield and Unsworth, like the rest of the Borough have great schools with dedicated staff. However there is evidence to show that there is a link between children on free school meals and low attainment levels, and an ultimate link to youth unemployment.

ISSUE What needs to be achieved	ACTIONS/OUTPUTS How can we work towards addressing the issue?	LEAD AGENCY Who should take responsibility?	MILESTONE	By when?
Support for residents whom English is not their first language	Promote and support for courses led by Children's Centres and Adult Learning	Whitefield HUB children's centre Adult Learning		Ongoing
Establish sessions in new provision and engage most hard to reach	Children's Centre involvement for adult/parent information.	Whitefield HUB children's centre		Ongoing
Expand 2 year old funding programme	To have 2 year olds school ready Increase nursery capacity for those 2 year old children – already shortfall of provision for these children	Whitefield HUB children's centre Whitefield HUB children's centre		Ongoing Ongoing
Children's learning	Ensure children are school ready. Support for parents in most need - Increase family learning Embrace and celebrate gifted and talented children Encourage early reading	Whitefield HUB children's centre Schools Township Forums		Ongoing

	Encourage children to 'think big'		Celebration and publicity of children's achievements	
Deliver more learning opportunities in the community to make learning more accessible	Offer taster courses. Identify suitable venues for adult learning facilities	Adult Learning Township Forum	Increase participation in adult learning locally	Ongoing

Outcome: Improved Community Safety

In Whitefield and Unsworth there has been significant success in the reduction of anti social behaviour and we want to see that continue to reduce.

ISSUE What needs to be achieved	ACTIONS/OUTPUTS How can we work towards addressing the issue?	LEAD AGENCY Who should take responsibility?	MILESTONE	By when?
Continue Partnership working	Create strong links with different groups	All partners Township Forum		Ongoing
	Regular partnership meetings to identify and quickly deal with emerging issues.	Township Coordinator GM Police	Regular meetings being held with range of key partners, housing providers, youth services, police, environmental health	Ongoing
	Regular PACT Meetings. Good publicity to increase involvement	GM Police, Council Schools & partner agencies	Positive reporting of success stories to township Forum and press	Ongoing
	BSafe BCool project to year 9 pupils. Ensure youngsters learn to respect police officers & the law	GM Police, Council Schools & partner agencies Township Coordinator	Presentations to High School children. Township coordinator to present ASB element.	October 2015
	Raise awareness of ASB / personal safety crime / drugs amongst school age children	GM Police, Council & partner agencies Township Coordinator	Alongside BsafeBcool, promotion of safe4summer and safe4 autumn	December 2015
Speeding controls to be	Use of speed cameras for hotspot	GM Police		

prioritized and increased	areas			
More 'community group' formation i.e. Home Watch and Resident Associations	To alleviate pressures under GM Police cuts and instill basic good neighbourhood behaviour Promote TRAs and other groups that get people together, support and to learn from other group's experience	GM Police Cllrs & Advisory Board members Local Cllrs & other group members support new groups	Homewatch information distributed via Township Coordinator	Ongoing
Safety around Whitefield Metrolink Station	Reduce trespass onto tracks Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour on platform	Transport Committee GM Police ASB Team	Reduced crime/fear of crime and accidents	Ongoing Ongoing
Resolve school parking issues	Danger for children and other residents. Encourage schools to participate in 'Safer School Parking Charters'	Road Safety team Township Forum members Primary Schools: St. Bernadette's All Saints Mersey Drive, Ribble Drive & Whitefield Community St. Michael's Higher Lane High Schools: Philips Castlebrook Cloughside	Reduced parking within school areas	Ongoing
Educating school children on road safety awareness	Deliver road safety awareness workshops to all High Schools	Road Safety team	Increase awareness of road safety and reduce incidents	March 2016

		Councillor support		
Street Safe 20mph	Young, vulnerable and old residents to be protected. Council to target right areas. Work with schools and local communities to endorse and assist in implementation of StreetSafe 20mph speed limits in residential areas	Bury Council Highways Dept	Successful Implementation of 20mph schemes	Ongoing

Outcome: Community Pride and Belonging

Whitefield and Unsworth is a great place to live, work and visit. There are low levels of crime and anti social behaviour compared to other areas. There is some beautiful green open space and park areas that are very much valued throughout the area and we want to instill a greater pride in the area for now and future generations.

ISSUE What needs to be achieved	ACTIONS/OUTPUTS How can we work towards addressing the issue?	LEAD AGENCY Who should take responsibility?	MILESTONE	By when?
Improvements to Highways and pavements	<p>Council to allocate funds to each township forum to let the community decide on the most significant areas for improvement</p> <p>Removal of unsightly signage/banners on highways</p>	<p>Council decision</p> <p>Highways Dept</p>		
Improvements to Parks	<p>Deliver programme to improve existing play areas</p> <p>Regular trimming of hedges, improving appearance of the local area</p> <p>Removal of unsightly signage/banners on parks railings</p> <p>Placement of 5 items of outdoor gym equipment adjacent to all ball zones in Whitefield and Unsworth (ensure fairness in distribution of funding from 'I Will If You Will')</p>	<p>Parks Dept</p> <p>Parks Dept</p> <p>Parks Dept</p> <p>IWIYW</p>	<p>Better facilities within parks</p> <p>Lobbying by local groups, Councillors</p>	Ongoing

Maintenance and TLC of Sunnybank Woods	<p>Re-instate the 'Friends of Sunnybank Woods'</p> <p>Work with Children and young people</p> <p>Support from Ranger and volunteer rangers</p>	<p>Cllr Grimshaw / Chris Gibbons</p> <p>Friends of Whitefield & Unsworth Park</p> <p>Whitefield HUB children's centre</p> <p>Youth Participation Co-ordinator</p> <p>Rangers</p> <p>Parks Dept</p>		
Promotion of allotments and self growing schemes to the wider community	Educate the local community in how to develop allotments, self growing schemes (e.g. incredible edibles, community orchards)	<p>Eden Gardens Allotments</p> <p>Yvonne Moore</p>		
Re-invigorate Boz Park	Re-establish committee group and encourage more community events within the Park	Friends of Whitefield & Unsworth Park		
Re-invigorate Sunnybank Woods	<p>Re-instate the Friends of Sunnybank Woods with support from team of volunteer rangers</p> <p>Investigate the issues affecting ongoing heavily waterlogged areas</p>	<p>Friends of Whitefield & Unsworth Park</p> <p>Parks Dept</p>		
Re-instate Melrose Close allotments	Increased need for allotments in the area	Parks Dept		
Commitment to provide permanent coordinator for a team of volunteer	Council to provide ear-marked funding for a volunteer coordinator	Ward Councillors		

rangers				
Appropriate re-development of Whitefield House / The Uplands	Continue to press for suitable development	Planning Dept		
Gateway maintenance	Improve physical appearance of gateway sites. Report issues via Township Forum	Community Township Forum		
Support community events & promote volunteering to ensure delivery of key events	<p>Park events</p> <p>Eden Gardens Allotments Open Days</p> <p>Elms in Bloom</p> <p>Doorstep and Sportivate activities for young people</p> <p>Volunteers needed to implement community actions</p>	<p>Township Forum</p> <p>Friends of Whitefield & Unsworth Park</p> <p>Eden Gardens</p> <p>Elms TRA</p> <p>Sport and Physical Activity Service (SAPAS)</p> <p>B3SDA Township Forum</p>	Successful delivery of events	March 2016
Encourage more recycling & improve recycling rates	<p>Road shows to promote recycling</p> <p>Promote recycling in schools</p> <p>Promotion of waste collection services with local businesses</p>	<p>Bury Council waste management</p> <p>Bury Council waste management</p> <p>Bury Council waste management</p>	<p>Measured by number of road shows and number of people engaged with</p> <p>Presentations at schools / pupils engaged</p> <p>Increased number of businesses paying for Bury's waste collections services</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

	Specific action in hotspot low performing areas	Bury Council waste management	Door to door visits, targeted work with individual households	Ongoing
	Right Stuff Right Bin tagging projects in mid performing areas	Bury Council waste management in partnership with Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (GMWDA)	Measured by number of schemes/bin rounds and the numbers of properties involved with each scheme (average approx 1,300 each bin round)	Ongoing
	Promotion of brown food recycling bins	Bury Council waste management	Measured by number of brown bins requested, tonnage rates increase	Ongoing
Improve Environmental Education and awareness	Promotion of Whitefield as a nice place to live	Township forum members	Positive promotion via events, publicity	Ongoing
	Work with police to identify graffiti "Tags" Encourage shops to keep shop frontages clean and litter free	GM Police Township Forum	Less graffiti in area Less litter Cleaner shop frontages	
	Encourage local clean up days/ events	Township Forum members & partners	Cleaner streets	
Regular Bus Service to Asda, Pilsworth	Better access to facilities. Lobby First Bus	Local TfGM reps on Council		Ongoing

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