



Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) Progress Report - 2015

Name of LAP: Greater Audley Locality Action Partnership (LAP).

Area(s) Covered: Alsagers Bank; Audley; Bignall End; Halmerend; Miles Green; Scott Hay; and Wood Lane.

Chair: Jane Lancaster.

Vice Chair: Cllr. A. Beech

Summary of Key Achievements: Robust partnership relationships have always been crucial to the achievements of the Greater Audley Locality Action Partnership (LAP). The strong partnership arrangements with Audley Parish Council, Audley Rotary Club and local schools, particularly, Sir Thomas Boughey High School, has been fundamental in the delivery of major projects. The close working relationship with major service providers to the area, Aspire Housing, Staffordshire Police and the Fire & Rescue Service has enhanced these projects, many hosted by Sir Thomas Boughey High School. All these partners have brought professionalism to the projects and their contributions are immeasurable, both individually and collectively. This partnership working has been further enhanced with projects with Children of Audley Association, Audley Health Centre and Audley Patients Participation Group, and the existing group of partners.

Some projects have continued into this year, notably concerns in relation to changes to the delivery of Library and Children's Services, and the regular monthly litter pick, which takes place on the first Friday of each month. The work of the LAP has been recognised by Audley Parish Council who have presented the LAP with the Capewell Naylor Trophy in acknowledgement of its work in the Community.

Cllr Proctor, Leader of Audley Parish Council, and Committee Member of the LAP, represented both organisations, when addressing pupils of Sir Thomas Boughey High School on the subject of vandalism, particularly in relation to damage in play areas. Many pupils expressed their dissatisfaction to the vandalism, at the event, and no pupils from the school were linked to the incidents. On this subject, the Joint Operation Group approved funding for Detached Youth Workers to be deployed in the area to combat the vandalism.

In a joint project with Audley Parish Council and the Children of Audley Residents Association, the LAP was successful in achieving funding of £15,000 to install a Half-Pipe and Skateboarding Ramps at the Wereton Road Community Park. The funding was awarded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and the equipment has been installed, and is well used.

LAP representation is also present on a Working Group with CARA, and officers from Newcastle Borough and Staffordshire County Councils to achieve funding of £55,000 to further enhance Wereton Road Country Park with a BMX Track.

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Lonely residents have been identified, from the area, and regularly attend Sir Thomas Boughey High School for Coffee Mornings, where they are served and entertained by the pupils. The school also staged the Harp of Gold Fund Raising Event in June, 2015, where money was raised to support disabled ex-pupils.

Also in June, 2015, all local schools, the LAP, the Parish Council, and Audley Rotary joined forces to stage litter-picks throughout the Audley area, the project was a great success, with in excess of 100 people participating.

The final event, for the calendar year, was the Annual Christmas Dinner for the vulnerable and elderly of the area, and funding for the event was provided by the Bishop Perrins School in London. The event was hosted by Sir Thomas Boughey High School, and the pupils cooked and served the meal, and provided the musical entertainment afterwards. A Christmas gift was given to all residents present, and with any food left, a hot meal was given to any resident who wanted to take one away with them.

Challenges Encountered.

The major problem that has been encountered during the past year has been the level of anti-social behaviour. The Police, Detached Youth Workers, and the Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team have worked tirelessly to resolve this issue, and the LAP has contributed where possible, looking for funding etc. The LAP worked with the Children of Audley Association and the Parish Council to provide diversionary activities to deter anti-social behaviour. In a survey delivered at Sir Thomas Boughey High School the pupils stated that their first preference would be the installation of skate boarding facilities. The LAP were successful in securing £15,000 of funding to provide skate board ramps and a half-pipe from the Proceeds of Crime Fund, provided by the police and Crime Commissioner. The equipment has been installed and is fully operational.

Another project to deter anti-social behaviour was provided by the Parish Council and guided by the Newcastle Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team, to provide a 'safe' area where young people could gather without fear of being moved on by the Police, and away from the public. This area has now been provided and it is hoped this may result in a reduction of the levels of anti-social behaviour.

Although the LAP was successful in finding funding of £15,000 for the skate board project, attracting funding has become increasingly difficult, as was shown when the LAP was unsuccessful in a bid to provide funding for equipment to maintain closed churchyards in the area.

Strengths

One of the major strengths of Audley LAP is the very strong working relationships with Audley Parish Council, Audley Rotary Club, Sir Thomas Boughey High School, Audley Medical Centre, Patient's Participation Panel, Police, and Church Groups. These relationships are a great asset in delivering projects and this has been shown in the many inter-generational projects with Sir Thomas Boughey, and the current Dementia Awareness Project with all the partners.

Weaknesses

There is strong representation from Audley Village, at the LAP, and although Halmerend is represented by Cllr Frankish, other districts e.g. Scott Hay and Miles Green remain unrepresented. LAP members are frequently reminded that if they know or meet residents

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from unrepresented districts to encourage them to join the LAP, and articles supporting this initiative have also been placed in the local magazine, Audley Community News.

Activities/Project Delivery

Health & Wellbeing;

- Skate Boarding Equipment
- Litter Picks
- Coffee Mornings
- Christmas Dinner

Safer and Stronger;

- Skate Boarding Equipment

Planned Activities for 2016

- Dementia Project
- Recycling Project

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Name of LAP: Betley, Keele & Madeley Locality Action Partnership.

Area(s) Covered: Balterley, Betley, Keele, Madeley, Madeley Heath.

Chair: Ann Spilsbury.

Vice Chair: Judy Lewis.

Summary of Key Achievements.

The Upcycle Project, where young people can service and repair bicycles has continued and is now overseen by PCSO Colin Hodgkinson, and the Speed Watch Project is also still operational.

The LAP was approached by Madeley High School to provide advice and guest speakers to support their event to promote International Women's Day. Guest speakers were provided by the Newcastle Partnerships Team to inform on oppressive relationships between young people, and C.S.E. The event was a great success and a wealth of knowledge and advice was available on the day.

Following reports of suspicious individuals being spotted around the sheltered housing complex, Knights Croft, in Keele. The LAP through the Community Safety Team at Newcastle Council provided home safety equipment to the tenants and arranged for the Fire and Rescue Service to fit the devices free of charge.

On 5th June, 2015, to celebrate Communities Day, the LAP co-ordinated, with Madeley Parish Council, The Meadows School and Madeley Residents Association to deliver a litter pick in Madeley. Over 50 people attended the litter pick, and were divided into groups so that greater coverage of the village could be achieved.

Another issue which developed over the year was parking in Highway Lane, Keele, as some residents felt that an emergency vehicle e.g. Fire Engine, would not be able to access the Lane should an emergency occur. The LAP arranged with the Fire & Rescue Service to take a fire engine to the area to test accessibility. The fire engine just managed to squeeze through the gap and the LAP is in consultation with Keele University to try to find a solution to the problem.

On Saturday 12th September, 2015, the LAP joined forces with Madeley Residents Association to deliver the annual Fun Day and Fun Dog Show. The event included a fairground, Zorb Balls, and approximately 20 stalls to entertain residents, and the event was very well attended. The Fun Dog Show attracted approximately 100 entrants and prizes were awarded over a range of categories.

Suspicious visitors were also spotted in the vicinity of the sheltered housing scheme in Furnace Lane, Madeley, again the LAP worked with the Community Safety Team at Newcastle Council, and the Fire & Rescue Service to provide home safety devices for residents.

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At Halloween the LAP liaised with the Community Safety Team to obtain funding through the Joint Operations Group (JOG) to provide funding to arrange 2 discos at the Madeley Centre. Friday evening saw a disco for young people, and on Saturday evening a disco for families was provided, where residents could bring their own alcohol, which made a cheap evening out during times of austerity. The finance provide by the JOG allowed residents to enter both events free of charge, and the staff at the Madeley Centre decorated the building very appropriately. Tickets for both events were booked up, well in advance, and the Centre was full for both events.

One of the issues in the Action Plan was to develop a positive relationship between the LAP and the Surgery in Madeley. This issue has been resolved and a strong working relationship has been established between the two, so much so, that a joint project has been planned for 2016 to make the area as dementia friendly as possible.

Challenges Encountered

A challenge that occurred over the course of the year, was the closure of the children's centre in Madeley. Many LAP members felt that a valuable resource would be lost to the area and the LAP wrote to Staffordshire County Council expressing their displeasure.

Problems were encountered when suspicious visitors were reported in the vicinity of 2 sheltered housing complexes, one in Keele and the other in Madeley. The LAP reacted to the problem and home safety equipment was installed through the projects described above.

Another issue reported was the theft of items of metal, and this was highlighted when an attempt was made to steal a set of metal railings at Keele University. The LAP provided the Police and residents with a list of scrap metal dealers, in the area, as they were all members of the national Scrap Metal Scheme set up to prevent stolen goods being handled, the Police were then able to visit local scrap metal dealers to warn that they may be approached to buy certain items.

Strengths

One of the major strengths of the LAP is its willingness to work alongside other active groups in the area. This has been highlighted with the litter-pick on Communities Day, in partnership with Madeley Parish Council, Madeley Residents Association and the Meadows School. Also the very successful Fun Day & Fun Dog Show was delivered in a joint working arrangement with the Police, the LAP and Madeley Residents Association. Another example is the current Dementia Awareness Project, where the LAP has worked with staff at the Madeley Surgery, and have addressed a meeting of Madeley Parish Council, with a view to all working together to achieve the necessary outcomes.

Weaknesses

A strength, can also, in some circumstances, contain elements of weakness, and with so many active groups in the area this can be the case. Many of these groups do not have the resources to advertise their events and consequently others are unaware of events and projects.

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Activities/Project Delivery

Health & Wellbeing;

- International Women's Day
- Safety of Elderly Residents
- Communities Day – Litter pick
- Parking issues
- Fun Day & Dog Show

Safer and Stronger;

- Halloween Discos
- Parking Issues
- Safety of Elderly Residents
- Upcycle project
- International Women's Day

Planned Activities for 2016

- Recycling project
- Dementia Project
- Inconsiderate Parking – The Meadows School
- Develop positive relationships with the surgeries at Keele and Betley.

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Name of LAP: Butt Lane & Talke LAP.

Area(s) covered: Wards of Butt Lane and Talke.

Chair: Cllr. Kyle Robinson.

Vice Chair: Cllr. David Allport.

Summary of key achievements:

- £12,415.00 external funding secured.
- License for Reginald Mitchell Peace Garden sorted out.
- Funding for “Text Not Delivered” project secured.
- Noise insulation at Clough Hall Skate Park installed.

Challenges encountered;

- Difficulty in getting wider community involvement.
- Lack of engagement from and with health.

Partnership participation;

Strengths

- Participation of and contribution from key agencies – Borough Council, County Council, Police, Fire & Rescue, Aspire.
- Participation of and contribution from community groups - Clough Hall Residents Association and Butt Lane Community Centre.
- Support from and involvement of Freeport.
- Links established with Staffs CYP and Maryhill Children’s Centre.

Weaknesses

- Community involvement could be wider.

Areas for improvement

- Involvement of more community groups.
- Involvement of more local businesses.
- Greater awareness of LAP in the area.

Activities / Project Delivery

Health and Wellbeing;

- Reginald Mitchell Peace Garden.
- Presentation on Dementia.

Stronger and Safer;

- Clough Hall Skate Park – noise abatement.
- Ski Slope – parking.
- Development of “Text Not Delivered” project.

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- £1,000.00 JOG funding – Clough Hall Skate Park noise abatement.
- £2,500.00 Staffordshire Local Community Fund funding - Clough Hall Skate Park noise abatement.
- £8,915.00 PCC Proceeds of Crime funding – Text Not Delivered.

External funding applied for

- £1,000.00 Staffordshire Local Community Fund funding – Text Not Delivered.

Planned activities for 2016

Health and Wellbeing;

- Dementia Friends project.
- Reginald Mitchell Peace Garden.
- Food poverty – linking in with commissioned projects.
- Development of projects with Maryhill Children’s Centre to improve take up of services.

Economic Development;

- Credit Union project.

Stronger and Safer;

- Implementation of “Text Not Delivered” project.
- Portable Speed monitoring equipment.
- Input into consultation on Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) areas that will replace Alcohol Prohibition Zones.

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Name of LAP: East Newcastle LAP (ENLAP).

Area(s) covered: Wards of Bradwell, Porthill, Wolstanton & May Bank.

Chair: Paul Davies.

Vice Chair: Cllr. Sandra Hambleton.

Summary of key achievements;

- £2,276.32 funding.
- Gating project, Wolstanton – completed.
- Support for Bradwell Fun Day.
- Dementia Project started.

Challenges encountered;

- Lack of awareness of LAP.
- Unrealistic expectations/misunderstanding of what LAP can or should do.
- Funding opportunities limited.

Partnership participation;

Strengths

- Involvement of public sector – Police, Borough Council, County Council.
- Involvement of Wolstanton Residents' Association.
- Involvement of Wolstanton High School.
- Involvement of Councillors from all four Borough Wards.
- Link established with M&S Wolstanton.

Weaknesses

- Lack of involvement from health.
- Local business involvement limited.
- No primary school involvement.
- Involvement of community groups and local residents limited.

Areas for improvement

- More involvement from those sectors/groups under-represented.

Activities / Project Delivery

Health and Wellbeing;

- Gating project.
- Dementia Project.

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- Promotion of CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) charity.

Stronger and Safer;

- Gating project.
- Bradwell Fun Day.

External funding achieved;

- £1,004.00 for Gating Project.
- £1,276.32 for Bradwell Fun Day.

Planned activities for 2016;

Health and Wellbeing;

- Healthy eating/tackling childhood obesity project.
- Further development of Dementia Project.
- Community Bench, Morris Square.

Stronger and Safer;

- Support for Bradwell Lodge Event, July 2016.
- Gating project clean-up, Spring 2016.
- Possible Impact Day(s), Spring 2016.
- Community Speedwatch.

Name of LAP: Greater Chesterton Locality Action Partnership (GCLAP)

Area(s) Covered: Chesterton and Holditch Wards

Chair: Lilian Barker M.B.E.

Vice Chair: Pat Stanier

Summary of Key Achievements

- The Greater Chesterton Locality Action Partnership (GCLAP) have continued with the Neighbourhood Plan that was created following consultation with major partners, stakeholders and the community. The Action Plan has been used to initiate projects and events to benefit the whole community.
- Four sub-groups have been established and are co-ordinated by GCLAP to facilitate actions on the plan and report back.
 - Crime Sub-Group - PCSO Lead
 - Funding Sub-Group - LAP Chair Lead
 - Community Sub-Group - Respect Chesterton Group
 - Planning Sub-Group - LAP Chair Lead
- The Crime Sub-group examines all issues relating to Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour, security and Personal Safety. The group is led by PCSOs and the group meets regularly. Subjects covered, to date, include mobile CCTV, CCTV, Personal Safety Equipment, Crime Prevention, Safety equipment for external use and control of anti-social behaviour.
- The Funding Sub-Group examines potential funding streams to finance projects that will address the issues that are affecting our community and the issues that the Community identified in the consultation exercises. The group has successfully piloted the Community Chest for the Chesterton area and have awarded funding to community groups. Examples of projects have included: the promotion of Chesterton Surgery PPG; craft resources for Brownies; Halloween Disco; Café in the Park; Play Group; Christmas Lantern Procession and Carol Service; and Christmas Fayre.
- The Respect Chesterton Community Group forms the operational arm of GCLAP and delivers community events. It is made up of volunteers, who give up their time to make these events a success, and to raise funds for future projects.
- The Planning Sub-Group meets as and when planning development applications are proposed which may adversely affect some or all of the residents of the area. This is not a permanent sub-group but responds to planning issues on behalf of the Community.
- The GCLAP is fully constituted with a bank account

Community Projects

- Community Litter Pick
- Estate walkabout with partners and residents
- Christmas Lantern Procession and Carol Service
- Christmas Fayre

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- Community health Event
- Love Parks Event
- Halloween Disco
- Easter Eggstravaganza
- Roman Project
- Outreach Surgeries – set up with partners at the One Stop Shop (OSS) for the Community to seek advice e.g. C.A.B., Aspire Money advice, Beat the Cold, Fuel Poverty Training and advice. Approach Dementia Advice. Potteries Gold –Benefits advice and training.
- Community Safety Day.

Diversionsary Activities

- Buzz in Fridays Project

Educational Projects

- Cooking on a Budget
- Fairy Job Mother
- Money Advice Team from Aspire hold advice sessions at Salvation Army

Volunteers Training

- Respect Chesterton Group (VAST)
- Money Advice Team gave training to volunteers at OSS
- Potteries Gold delivered advice on benefit changes
- Beat the Cold training given to 8x volunteers on fuel switching and recognising meters and charges.

Newsletter

Worked with Aspire to produce newsletters which have enabled GCLAP and the Community to write articles and receive information as to what is happening locally. Articles have highlighted individual achievements/successes and welcomed new members into the Community e.g. Head Teacher, Vicar.

Challenges Encountered

- Closure of Youth services and the impact on the levels of anti-social behaviour
- Anti-social behaviour issues relating to young people, and working with partners to create diversionary activities to address these issues.
- Crime trends. At times, in the past, it appeared that the local police team struggled to cope with crime trends. Communication with the police inspector has improved procedures and regular updates can be given to the Community.
- Access to the High School. The High School is now represented on GCLAP.

Partnership participation

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- Strong association with all major partners – Newcastle Borough Council, Aspire, SSOTP, Elite, Police, FARS, etc. Networking amongst the partners is outstanding, as was recently shown at the Health Event.
- Community Capacity is growing and there is good attendance at GCLAP and Respect meetings, and some volunteers who regularly attend Respect have received training to develop their skills.
- Challenges. The previous year's challenges of working with Chesterton High School have been overcome. Engagement with some elected members remains sporadic. E.g. completion of pro-forma if absent from Lap meetings. The current challenges relate to periodic anti-social behaviour and the scarcity of funding to deliver projects. The challenge of anti-social behaviour has been met with close partnership working between CCLAP, the Police, and Newcastle Borough Council's Lead for anti-social behaviour, and measures have been put in place to deter re-offending. Although the scarcity of funding is an issue for most community groups, GCLAP has fared quite well as over £8450.00 was raised for projects during the past twelve months.

Activities/Project Delivery

Health & Wellbeing;

- Fairy Job Mother
- Cooking on a Budget
- Fuel Poverty Advice and training

Economic Development;

- Money advice Sessions
- Fairy Job Mother
- Sponsorship to local community groups via Community Chest and other partners
- Cooking on a Budget
- Community Tool Hire

Stronger and Safer;

- Buzz in Fridays Project – ASB Lead
- WW1 Memorial Renovation
- Safety gadgets
- Health Event
- Halloween Disco
- Community Tool Hire

External Funding achieved

- The Funding Sub Group has realised funding to the total of £8450.00, which has and will make a difference to the residents of the area.
- Community Chest, as administered by GCLAP Funding Sub Group, has awarded six community groups a total of £3676 to finance local projects. £294 remains in the fund which will be allocated before the end of March 2016.
- External sponsorship has secured £1000, some of which was achieved as match funding for projects included in the lists above. Community Groups have benefitted from amongst others the Realise Foundation, Elite and County Councillor.

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Community Chest – Groups supported

- Chesterton Surgery Patient Participation group
- Time Out and Toast (Mother and Toddler Group)
- Café in the Park
- 3rd Chesterton Brownies (Equipment)
- Chesterton Vision Centre (Halloween Event)
- Chesterton Community Forum (Christmas Project)

Potential Activities for 2016

- Continued GCLAP partnership working to achieve actions on the Neighbourhood Plan
- Easter Event
- Continue with educational projects and to apply for external funding to support them.
- Encourage volunteer training – up skilling individuals
- Lantern Procession and Carol Service
- Christmas Fayre.

Name of LAP: Kidsgrove LAP.

Area(s) covered: Borough Council Wards of Kidsgrove, Newchapel & Ravenscliffe.

Chair: Cllr. Terry Turner.

Vice Chair: Cllr. Reg Bailey.

Summary of key achievements;

- Birchenwood Barriers completed.
- Support for Galley Centre.

Challenges encountered;

- Lack of awareness of LAP.
- Difficulty in getting wider community involvement.
- Lack of engagement from and with health.
- Lack of Elected Member involvement.

Partnership participation;

Strengths

- Involvement of public sector – Police, Borough Council, F&RS.
- Some community involvement.
- Local business involvement.

Weaknesses

- Lack of involvement from health.
- Limited knowledge and understanding of LAP in the wider community.
- Poor promotion.

Areas for improvement

- Improve promotion of LAP.
- Health involvement.
- Joint working with Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership (KTCP).

Activities / Project Delivery

Stronger and Safer;

- Birchenwood Barriers.
- Trubshaw Court disturbances – signs put up (Aspire).
- Community Speedwatch (Newchapel RA).

External funding achieved

None.

Planned activities for 2016

Health and Wellbeing;

- Resolution to Tesco Pathway issue.

Economic Development;

- Partnership working with KTCP – Brindley Anniversary?

Stronger and Safer;

- CCTV improvements funded and implemented.
- New Kidsgrove Residents' Association.
- Cadet Firefighters Scheme.
- Community Clean Up.
- ASB project(s).

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Name of LAP: Newcastle Rural Locality Action Partnership (NRLAP).

Area(s) covered: The Parishes of Chapel & Hill Chorlton, Loggerheads, Maer & Aston and Whitmore.

Chair: Cllr. David Loades.

Vice Chair: Elena Sudlow, Clerk, Maer & Aston Parish Council.

Summary of key achievements;

- Rural Youth Project/Youth Bus - funding received and project commenced.
- Support for Loggerheads Befrienders.
- Information about the Leader Programme supplied.
- Increased membership and involvement.
- Constitution agreed.
- Bank Account agreed and opened.
- “Chit Chat” programme – support for isolated older people - started.

Challenges encountered;

- Planning issues predominance.
- Attracting membership and involvement of independent community representatives.
- Identification of health & well-being issues.
- Loneliness.
- Public Transport issues.
- Local School (lack of) participation.

Partnership participation;

Strengths

- Involvement of public sector – Police, Borough Council, County Council, Fire & Rescue.
- Involvement of all four Parish Councils.
- Involvement of some key community groups.

Weaknesses

- Lack of independent community/resident representatives.
- Local business involvement limited.
- Lack of clarity as to respective roles of LAP and Parish Councils.

Areas for improvement

- Better involvement of unrepresented groups.
- Clearer direction needed.
- Involvement of health agencies.
- Timed Agendas for meetings.

Activities / Project Delivery

Health and Wellbeing;

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- Support for Loggerheads Befrienders.
- Improved bus timetable information.

Economic Development;

- Leader Programme information disseminated – link in with Rural Deal.

Stronger and Safer;

- Rural Youth Project/Youth Bus.

External funding achieved;

- £1,500.00

Planned activities for 2015/16

Health and Wellbeing;

- Work with schools in respect of disadvantaged children & families and mental health.
- Partnership working with Ashley Surgery.
- Further development of Rural Youth Project/Youth Bus.
- Support for isolated older people – dementia project.
- Further develop positive links with Ashley Surgery.
- Domestic Violence/abuse workshops.
- Publically identified bus routes.

Economic Development;

- Development of projects through the Leader Programme/Rural Deal.
- Support for community group(s) to run Loggerheads Library.
- Monitoring of HS2 impact.

Stronger and Safer;

- Road Safety campaign (January/February 2016).
- Link in with Loggerheads library development.
- Litter reduction projects.
- Recycling Reward scheme.
- LAP Information & promotion point in Loggerheads Community Fire Station.

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Name of LAP: Newcastle South Locality Action Partnership.

Area(s) Covered: Clayton, Poolfields, Seabridge, Thistleberry, Town Centre and Westlands.

Chair: Sandra Hicks.

Vice Chair: George Harvey.

Summary of Key Achievements and Challenges Encountered.

Following on from last year when the LAP became fully constituted and opened its own bank account, it achieved its first funding award in January 2015. £1000 was granted by the Staffordshire Local Community Fund to provide equipment and training to establish a Speed Watch Group in the Clayton, Westlands and Thistleberry areas.

Another issue that has developed into a major concern for the LAP, Police, Schools, Parents, and Residents is the safety of schoolchildren when arriving at, or leaving school. The children are often put in danger due to inconsiderate parking in the vicinity of the schools, which often forces the children to walk on the road as cars are parked on the pavement.

Discussions with Langdale Primary School resulted in safety work being implemented at both the Earls Drive and Langdale Road entrances. Funding was achieved through Staffordshire's Local Community Fund and the projects cost £798 and £1656 respectively. A series of pedestrian guard rails were strategically placed in the Earls Drive entrance of the school, to ensure that children could not run out onto the road, as a number of incidents had almost resulted in collisions with vehicles. The second project was to erect guard rails to prevent parking near the Langdale Road entrance, as the parking not only put the lives of the children in danger but also blocked the driveways of residents.

A series of meetings were held between Seabridge Primary School Staff, the LAP, and Staffordshire Police due to concerns about the safety of children due to inconsiderate parking. With the assistance of the LAP, the school successfully achieved £800 in funding through the Community Chest to purchase 'A' boards with hard hitting messages such as "Inconsiderate Parking could endanger a child's life." The 'A' boards, both deliver a hard hitting message and can be strategically placed to prevent vehicles parking in a way that could endanger a child's life.

Another concern for the LAP was that Staffordshire County Council had removed the posts of Youth Workers, and the impact that would have on anti-social behaviour in the area. PCSO Gemma Price and Kevin Byrne, Partnership Officer, met with a Youth Worker at the 'Churches in the Westlands,' with a view to establishing a Youth Club. The negotiations were very successful and Blazes Youth Club was guided through a funding application with the Community Chest Fund, by the LAP. The Youth Club were awarded funding of £800 and equipment has been purchased to allow it to become operational.

As a result of other work with the charity Deafvibe, the LAP was approached to partner the charity to deliver a British Sign Language course at Newcastle Community High School and Friarswood School, following requests by pupils. Deafvibe and the LAP worked together to achieve funding of £797 to deliver the course, which commenced in November 2015.

Other projects commissioned but not delivered by the LAP were implemented during the year, including a Domestic Abuse Programme, by the charity Arch, as a result of

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Clayton/Westlands being identified as hotspot areas for Domestic Violence. A second project was the removal of graffiti on electricity/phone units which was co-ordinated by the Police

and delivered by Streetscene. Another project was delivered during 'Rogue Traders Week' where PCSO Gemma Price and Partnerships Officer, Kevin Byrne, visited the homes of vulnerable and elderly residents to give advice on how to deal with rogue traders, should they visit their property.

The final project for the LAP, during the past 12 months, followed requests by Town Centre residents who wished to form a Speed Watch Group. The LAP applied for funding of £1000 to the Staffordshire Local Community Fund and were informed in December, 2015, that the application was successful.

Strengths

Many of the wards within the LAP area are well represented by Councillors, and there are good links with many of the local schools. The LAP and the Police work closely together and many joint projects have been undertaken to address concerns raised by residents and local organisations.

Weaknesses

Areas, such as Poolfields and Thistleberry are not represented at the LAP, either by residents or Councillors, and as a result their concerns may go unrecognised and they may lose out in terms of projects and activities. LAP members are frequently reminded that if they know or meet residents from unrepresented districts to encourage them to contact the LAP Chair with a view to joining the LAP.

Activities/Project Delivery

Health & Well Being;

- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Clayton/Westlands/Seabridge.
- Pedestrian Guard rails – Langdale Primary School (Earls Drive entrance).
- Guard Rail – Langdale Primary School (Langdale Road entrance).
- Purchase of 'A' boards – Seabridge Primary School.
- Establishment of Blazes Youth Club – Churches in the Westlands.
- BSL Course – Newcastle Community High School & Friarswood – Deafvibe.
- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Town Centre.
- Removal of Graffiti.

Safer and Stronger;

- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Clayton/Westlands/Seabridge.
- Pedestrian Guard Rails – Langdale Primary School (Earls Drive entrance).
- Guard Rails – Langdale Primary School (Langdale Road entrance).
- Purchase of 'A' boards – Seabridge Primary School.
- Establishment of Blazes Youth Club – Churches in the Westlands.
- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Town Centre.
- Rogue Traders Programme – Visiting vulnerable and elderly residents.

Economic Development;

- Rogue Traders Programme – Visiting vulnerable and elderly residents.

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Funding Achieved

- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Staffordshire Local Community Fund - £1000
- Erection of Pedestrian Guard Rails - Staffordshire Local Community Fund £798
- Erection of Guard Rails (Langdale Road) – Staffordshire Local Community Fund £1656
- Purchase of ‘A’ boards (Seabridge Primary) – Community Chest Fund £800
- British Sign Language Course (NCHS & Friarswood) – Community Chest Fund £797
- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Staffordshire Local Community Fund £1000

Total - **£6051**

Planned Activities for 2016

- Continued LAP partnership working to achieve actions on the Action Plan.
- To work with Police and Staffordshire County Council to consider the possibility of making Kingsbridge Avenue one way.
- Recycling project.

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Name of LAP: Partnership of Western Communities Locality Action Partnership.

Area(s) Covered: Cross Heath; Knutton; Parksite; and Silverdale.

Chair: Gareth Snell.

Vice Chair: Sylvia Butler.

Summary of Key Achievements

Following an episode of anti-social behaviour, last year, a multi-agency approach to provide diversionary activities and a restorative justice programme brought the situation under control. This has been supported by subsequent anti-social behaviour statistics.

The Partnership of Western Communities Locality Action Partnership (LAP) have adopted a Neighbourhood Plan that was created following consultation with major partners, stakeholders, and the community.

There has been two sub-groups set up which are co-ordinated by the LAP and these groups will assist with the actions listed on the plan.

- Ilkley Place Sub Group - LAP Chair Lead
- Community Chest Sub Group - LAP Chair Lead

A sub-group, co-ordinated by the LAP, has been set up to progress the refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area. The group is led by the LAP Chair, Gareth Snell, and initial plans for the refurbishment were drawn, but following discussions with funding providers the funding application was deferred, and will be re-submitted in March 2016. Further consultation work with local residents will take place before the application is re-submitted.

The Community Chest Sub Group has been established to pilot the administration of the Community Chest in the LAP area and has successfully awarded grants to local community groups.

Community Projects

The following projects and activities have been taken from the Neighbourhood Plan.

- Loan Shark Educational Programme - Silverdale Primary.
- Art Project along the Mineral Line.
- Summer Fun Day.
- Upcycling Old Furniture - St Luke's Primary.
- Cooking on a Budget - St Luke's Primary and Silverdale Primary.
- Refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area.
- Provision of Baby Changing Table.

Challenges Encountered

The outbreak of anti-social behaviour was a surprise to all who live or work in the area and all agencies worked together to produce a seamless initiative to counter the problem. Agencies who came together to produce this approach were: Police; FARS; Aspire Housing; sanctuary Housing; Youth Service; Newcastle Council's Partnership and Community Safety Teams; County, Borough and Parish Councillors, and Residents.

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An application for funding of £15,000 to refurbish Ilkley Place Play Area was initially prepared to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Proceeds of Crime Fund, but was not submitted as consultation had not been completed in time. The fund reopens in March 2016

and the LAP plans to submit the application following more extensive consultation with local stakeholders and residents.

Another challenge, which was present last year, was the absence of Parish Councillors at LAP meetings, however, following the elections in May 2015, this problem has been alleviated, with parish councillors attending meetings, and playing an active role in the sub-groups.

Partnership Participation

The LAP is well represented by Borough Councillors, Police, Officers from Newcastle Council, Aspire Housing, Residents and Local Businesses, however, invitations for the County Councillor to attend have been unsuccessful. The LAP covers four distinct areas and some have weaker resident participation than others, however, all LAP members encourage resident participation wherever possible.

Activities/Project Delivery

Health and Wellbeing;

- Fun day
- Healthy Eating Project
- Provision of Baby Changing Table
- Refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area
- Assisting and Developing IT Skills within Sheltered Housing Complexes *
- Developing Intergenerational activities between Newcastle College and Older Persons' Complexes e.g. Hairdressing *
- Loan Shark Educational Programme

Safer and Stronger;

- Restorative Justice Programme
- LAP Estate walkabouts
- Loan Shark Educational Programme

Economic Development;

- Recycling Project
- Healthy Eating Project
- Develop intergenerational skills between Newcastle College and Older Persons Complexes *
- Loan Shark educational Programme.

*These projects are waiting for a Volunteer Programme to be developed between VAST and Newcastle College.

Community Chest

The Community Chest Fund, as administered by the Partnership of Western Communities LAP Community Chest Sub Group, has awarded six community groups a total of £1963-50 to finance local projects. A total of £33-25 remains in the fund, and as this figure is probably

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too small to support a project no further applications are expected. The groups supported were as follows:

St Marys Church, Knutton	Scarecrow Festival	150-00
Silverdale Elim Church	Purchase of Bouncy Castle	400-00
Alice Charity	Support for Young Carers	533-50
Silverdale Scouts	Upgrading heating/flooring	380-00
Silverdale Elim Church	Befriending Service	400-00
District Health nurses	Baby Changing Table	100-00
	Total	£1963-50

Planned Activities for 2016

- Dementia Awareness Project
- Refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area
- Intergenerational Projects with Newcastle College
- Reinstatement of Miners Wheel in Silverdale

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