



## Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) Cabinet Panel - Summary Progress Report - 2015

### Key achievements;

- All LAPs held an AGM and confirmed the Chair/Vice Chair and signatory positions/arrangements.
- All of the nine LAPs are now fully constituted with bank accounts.
- £46,692.32 external funding has been brought into the Borough by the LAPs.
- All of the nine LAPs have refreshed their Action Plans, into a consistent format, with actions identified following consultation.
- Two of the LAPs have been administering the Community Chest grants on behalf of the Borough Council via a sub group, in the absence of an alternative Locally Based Body.
- The total number of attendees at LAP meetings during 2015 was 475. These attendances consist of a variety of partners from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors.

### Challenges;

- Difficulties engaging with the wider community in a number of areas.
- Lack of engagement in a number of areas from health partners.
- Closure of community services/facilities e.g. youth clubs and children centres.
- Misunderstanding or lack of understanding of what LAPs do / unrealistic expectations from community members and some partners.
- Limited funding opportunities for some activities.
- Responding to key issues and hotspots e.g. ASB.

### Strengths;

- Many LAPs reported that they continued to receive support and involvement from key partners such as the Borough Council, County Council, Police, Aspire and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue.
- LAPs reported that they continued to receive and provide support and involvement from Resident Associations, Schools, Councillors, local churches, local businesses.
- LAPs reported improved relationships with and Town and Parish Councils.
- LAPs are proactively accessing external funding to address issues in their communities.
- LAPs are assisting NBC to administer the Community Chest grant funding scheme.
- LAPs are actively co-ordinating partnership activity to address community issues and concerns.
- LAPs have been working with other established local groups to deliver solutions in the community.

### Weaknesses;

- Not all LAPs are performing at the same level, there are different stages of development.
- Representation and involvement from some of the partners could be better e.g. Councillors, Schools, Aspire and Police.

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- LAPs acknowledge that community input and involvement could be much better.
- Representation of some areas could be improved but this is dependent on better promotion, attracting new members, increasing representation from some of the key partners.

**Areas for improvement;**

- Some LAPs reported the need to better engage with local businesses, schools, Councillors, community groups, town and parish councils, doctors surgeries and other health professionals.
- The majority of LAPs reported the need to further improve relationships in the localities with health and other partners, although some progress had been made particularly with dementia projects and older people.
- The majority of LAPs agreed that more promotion of LAPs was required in their communities to raise the profile of their work.
- Development of LAPs as a community delivery conduit needs to improve in some areas.
- Some LAPs need to become more ambitious and encourage wider membership to meet the needs of the community.