

Subject: Gipton Neighbourhood Management Update: April 2013 – September 2013

Update on Neighbourhood Improvement Plan priorities:

1. Reduce Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

- Two operation champions have occurred in the Gipton Area in May and August, which have targeted hotspot areas of Crime, Burglary and ASB and promoted information to residents in relation to welfare reform.
- A DPPO is in place across Gipton.
- A burglary reduction action plan is in place for Gipton and Harehills to deter and divert nominals from committing offences of burglary, theft and handling stolen goods. The activities delivered from this initiative include:-
 - A partnership approach to managing amber nominals through tasking and by linking in to diversionary activities and agencies.
 - A partnership approach to supporting vulnerable victims and repeat victims through tasking model
 - A partnership approach to supporting vulnerable children and families by linking tasking with guidance and support
 - Most active burglars in the area managed through serious acquisitive crime group.
 - Police working with local primary schools for prevention around drugs and crime.
- Target hardening has occurred in the top 4 areas of Gipton, including environmental surveys, improved property security and referrals to CASAC.
- Local partners are linked in with Operation Optimal to detect potential burglary hotspots and increase awareness and multi-agency presence in relevant areas
- A full programme of summer holiday activities for young people in place throughout the ward, including activities for dance, football, sports camp and play scheme.
- The ring leader of a drug operation received a six year prison sentence, four other associates also received custodial sentences

2. Promote Physical and Emotional Wellbeing

- There is a newly established Gipton Health improvement group to assess the needs of the Gipton community. An action plan is in place to look at promoting the take up of free school meals, linking with the city wide oral health strategy and smoking reduction initiatives.
- A two week play scheme has been funded for vulnerable children aged 5 – 8 identified through social services and local partners.
- Specific support visits have been undertaken to residents affected by the Welfare reform changes and under occupancy charges

3. Increase levels of community confidence

- Gipton Gala took place in July, over 2500 residents attended the event. A consultation exercise was completed with residents and a further community event to analyse the results is organised for August.
- Operation champions used to promote the methods of reporting crime and anti-social behaviour.

- Property safety information has been disseminated to residents on projects such as 'it only takes a minute' and 'how do they afford it'?
- A community engagement meeting held 6th August engaged six new residents to the Community Leadership Team, including residents from the new build communities

4. Increase employment and economic viability, reduce NEETS and persistent absenteeism.

- Gipton opportunity shop opened in June 2013. Links have been made with the Compton Job Shop and Job Centre plus who are referring clients to the service. Thirty people have attended of which 2 have entered a volunteer programme, 2 have gained work experience, and 1 has obtained full time employment.
- Links have been made with Y Coco consortia to develop training and placement opportunities for young people
- Guidance and support groups are now in place to ensure consistent support for the most vulnerable young people who are NEET or persistently absent from school.

5. Improve the Local Environment

- Young people have been involved in the design and improvements implemented to Fearnville Skate park.
- A Community clean-up day in took place 8th August. The Hot Spot Team cleared several areas of overgrown hedging and rubbish removal to communal areas and several skips were in place for both residents and hot spot team to utilise
- Support is on-going for the environmental improvement zones across the area.
- Alleygates have been installed on Lawrence Road to prevent problems of the land behind being used for illicit purposes and securing the resident parking area.

Additional Resources

A variety of projects have been funded through Community First funding to the total of £20,720, including a community first aid course, family fun days, street works soccer, after school reading class and activities at the BMX track

Challenges

- The review of a number of key partner services and how this will impact on service delivery to the community, i.e. Youth Service, Police and ALMO review
- Partnership work is underway to increase community involvement and membership of the Community Leadership Team.
- Identifying the gaps in service for young people and how the youth contract funding is best utilised

Focus for next six months

- With the significant increases in 2012 in both Job Seekers Allowance and Incapacity Benefit claimant rates and the high levels of young people not in employment, education or training, the focus for Gipton will be on increasing opportunities for people to gain Employment & Skills. The Gipton Opportunity shop is already evidencing high demand for support in gaining appropriate skill for employment and applying for jobs. Links are being made with wider partners for both advice on

employment, training, placement and voluntary opportunities, however, this will be strengthened over the coming months.

- Different methods of engagement will be implemented to help improve the level of community confidence, including a Christmas market, the development of allotments and Tour De Gipton to open the next Gala and wider promote Tour De France