

Partnerships West

A regular update on partnership developments in West Cheshire



WELCOME....to this month's news and activity from the West Cheshire Together partnerships framework.

On 29th April, around 150 partners from across the borough attended our third LSP Network event which publicly launched the new **Sustainable Community Strategy for West Cheshire "Together we can Aim High"**, setting out the vision and commitments for West Cheshire Together through to 2026. It is the product of almost a year of hard work across the partnership to identify the key challenges and "wicked issues" which are best addressed through a partnership approach. The document responds by setting out our collective commitment to addressing these areas and making a real difference to the quality of life of all our communities.



The Sustainable Community Strategy will guide the work of the partnership over years to come. Over the coming months, the first steps will be taken in translating the commitments and ambitions set out in the document by looking at priority areas and issues, and also the good practice we have to build on. The strategy, together with a handy summary version, can be viewed on the West Cheshire Together website at: <http://www.westcheshiretogether.org.uk/> (under key documents on the homepage).

At the launch event, delegates also received short presentations celebrating current partnership success stories, including the **SPRINGBOARD** partnership between Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service and Age Concern aiming to improve older people's access to a range of services and to promote safety in their homes: the **Total Place** programme, aiming to re-write the rulebook for tackling child poverty in Ellesmere Port: and the **Grozone** scheme in Northwich, an intergenerational garden design and creation project. Delegates were then asked to don their thinking caps to look at early actions to deliver the fifteen Sustainable Community Strategy commitments. Working in thematic groups, many ideas were generated which are now being fed back to the thematic partnerships to help shape initial delivery activities.

Finally, a keynote speech was delivered by Dr Mike Grady who was involved in the recently completed national Marmot Review of Health Inequalities in England. He presented a robust and challenging assessment of the current need to reduce health inequalities as a matter of fairness and social justice. Dr Grady's presentation, along with feedback from the workshop session and other supporting paperwork relating to the event, can be viewed at:

http://www.westcheshiretogether.org.uk/lsp/lsp_events/network_event_27th_april_2010.aspx

For further information on the Sustainable Community Strategy, contact Andrea Mageean on 01244 977561 or e-mail: andrea.mageean@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ⇒ *Feedback from the LSP and Thematic Leads meetings*
- ⇒ *Health and Wellbeing news*
- ⇒ *East Northwich and Rudheath Big Fun Day*
- ⇒ *Dragon's Den for Greenfield's Park residents*
- ⇒ *CH64 achievement awards: nominations required*
- ⇒ *Recent and forthcoming Community Forums*

Feedback from recent West Cheshire Together meetings

The Chairs and Vice Chairs of the five Thematic Partnerships met on 12th April and considered early first drafts of the five *Area Asset Management Plans* prior to wider public consultation. Updates were also received on *Comprehensive Area Assessment*; *Ellesmere Port's Total Place programme*; proposed changes to *Local Area Agreement designated and non-designated indicators*; and a first draft *Community Cohesion Strategy for West Cheshire*.

You can read the minutes of this meeting on the West Cheshire Together partnerships website at: http://www.westcheshiretogether.org.uk/strategic_themes.aspx

* * *

“West Cheshire Together” LSP Steering Group met on 29th April – a briefing note from this meeting was circulated to partners and the minutes of the meeting will shortly be available.

Both can be viewed at:

http://www.westcheshiretogether.org.uk/lsp/lsp_events/lsp_29th_april_2010.aspx

For further information, contact Andrea Mageean, Partnership Manager, on 01244 977561 or e-mail: andrea.mageean@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Health and Wellbeing News

2010 is the **Year of Health and Wellbeing** in the Liverpool City Region and is a great opportunity for everyone to join together and make positive changes to their health and the way they feel about themselves. There are five ways to wellbeing that are proven to make a real difference to an individual's life:-

- ⇒ **Connect**..... With the people around you. With family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. At home, work, school or in your local community. Think of these as the cornerstones of your life and invest time in developing them. Building these connections will support and enrich you every day.
- ⇒ **Be active**..... Go for a walk or run. Step outside. Cycle. Play a game. Garden. Dance. Exercising makes you feel good. Most importantly, discover a physical activity you enjoy and that suits your level of mobility and fitness.
- ⇒ **Take notice**..... Be curious. Catch sight of the beautiful. Remark on the unusual. Notice the changing seasons. Savour the moment, whether you are walking to work, eating lunch or talking to friends. Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters.
- ⇒ **Keep learning**..... Try something new. Rediscover an old interest. Sign up for that course. Take on a different responsibility at work. Fix a bike. Learn to play an instrument or how to cook your favourite food. Set a challenge you will enjoy achieving. Learning new things will make you more confident as well as being fun.
- ⇒ **Give**..... Do something nice for a friend, or a stranger. Thank someone. Smile. Volunteer your time. Join a community group. Look out, as well as in. Seeing yourself, and your happiness, linked to the wider community can be incredibly rewarding and creates connections with the people around you.

Evidence shows that building these actions into daily life can add 7.5 years to an individual's life. Partners across West Cheshire have the opportunity to promote the Year of Health and Wellbeing in the local area and an Action Plan will be developed, lead by NHS Western Cheshire, to ensure that the most is made of this campaign.

The **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment** is a shared statement on the health and wellbeing needs of the population of Cheshire West and Chester and:-

- ✓ identifies the health and well-being needs of the local population;
- ✓ identifies any groups whose needs are not being met;
- ✓ provides information which can be used in the planning, development and delivery of health and well-being services for the next three to five years, and sets a clear direction for the next ten years; and
- ✓ helps reduce health inequalities.

The latest list of factsheets (May updates) are now available on the NHS Western Cheshire website at:-

http://www.wcheshirepct.nhs.uk/default.asp?page=Joint_Strategic_Needs_Assessment/STAKEHOLDER%20BULLETINS.asp

Claire Wildgoose, Partnerships Manager at NHS Western Cheshire and support officer for the West Cheshire Together for Health and Wellbeing thematic partnership, will be going on maternity leave from 25th June 2010.



Alison Paul (NHS Western Cheshire) will be covering Claire's role during her maternity leave and can be contacted on 01244 650430 or e-mail: alison.paul@wcheshirepct.nhs.uk

For JSNA queries, partners are asked to contact the Primary Care Trust Public Health Team at jsna@wcheshirepct.nhs.uk

News from Northwich and Rural North

A **"Big Fun Day"** was held on 2nd May aimed at families and all communities within the East Northwich and Rudheath neighbourhood. You can read a full report, including the trials and tribulations faced by the BFD committee in staging an event of this scale in only seven weeks at:- <http://www.westcheshiretogether.org.uk/news.aspx>

Briefly, the short timescale focused everyone's attention on the task in hand and, despite a torrential downpour the night before and chilly temperatures with little sight of the sun on the day itself, it didn't deter around 500 people attending and taking part in activities including a kiddies fun fair, Bungee duel, human table top football, tug-of-war and wellie-throwing. In addition there were some fantastic prizes donated by local businesses as part of a raffle. Further entertainment was provided into the evening with local bands and a tribute ABBA band keeping everyone warm.



Initial feedback shows that residents thoroughly enjoyed the event and there are already plans for another event next summer.

For further information, contact Steve Newson, Neighbourhood Manager, on 01606 42126 or e-mail: steve.newson@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Woodland Walks Festival throughout May: Families have the chance to get fit and explore nature this spring thanks to a festival of local guided woodland walks taking place throughout May. “Walk in the Woods month in The Mersey Forest” features a range of free local countryside walks suitable for all ages and fitness levels, from a dawn chorus bird-watching walk at Marbury Country Park, to a bluebell nature walk at Rivacre Valley Local Nature Reserve.

The festival is part of the Tree Council’s national “Walk in the Woods” month with thousands of people due to take part in guided walks taking place across the country. Local events have been organised by Cheshire West and Chester Council, Frodsham Town Council and the Friends of Anderton and Marbury, with the programme co-ordinated by The Mersey Forest, the growing network of woodlands and green spaces being created across Merseyside and North Cheshire.

The programme of May guided walks is available at www.merseyforest.org.uk/walkinthewoods or by calling 01925 816217.

As well as the May walks, nature lovers can explore the local area at their leisure all summer long thanks to free maps and walk direction packs available from another local website: www.discoverthemerseyforest.co.uk

* * *

Weaver Vale Housing Trust Neighbourhood Strolls 2010: Weaver Vale Housing Trust is conducting neighbourhood strolls throughout the year with the purpose of helping to identify environmental issues which are causing concern. This may include graffiti, fly-tipping hot spots or external repairs such as damaged walls.

Residents are encouraged to join staff in the strolls to share their knowledge of the estates in which they live. Each stroll will begin at 9.30am and will last between 1 and 2 hours. If you would like to take part, please come along to any of the following strolls:-

Area:	Stroll Date:	Meet outside the following start locations:
Greenbank	Tuesday 18 th May	Shops, Greenbank Lane
Frodsham	Thursday 20 th May	Meadow Court, Clifton Crescent
Barnton	Tuesday 25 th May	British Legion, Meadow Drive
Grange	Tuesday 1 st June	Grange Court
Crook Lane	Tuesday 8 th June	Games area on Esk Road (Willow Wood)
Dene	Thursday 10 th June	Dene Drive Garage site, opposite Crossfield Ave
Greenfields Park	Tuesday 15 th June	Community House, Finsbury Walk
Leftwich	Tuesday 22 nd June	Wakefield Court, Clifton Drive
Rudheath	Tuesday 29 th June	Community House, 38 Cotebrook Road
Over	Tuesday 6 th July	The Edge
Wharton Gardens	Tuesday 13 th July	Entrance to Wharton Gardens
Weaverham Lime	Weds 1 st September	Moretons Meade, Walnut Avenue
Weaverham Farm	Thurs 2 nd September	Front of Farm Close flats, Farm Road
Lostock Gralam	Tues 7 th September	Entrance to Park, Corner of Townshend and Fryer Road

For further information, contact Philip Singleton on 01606 813422 or e-mail: phil.singleton@wvht.co.uk

Friends of Northwich Station: are meeting for a clean-up morning on **Saturday 22nd May** between 10.00am and 1.00pm at the station. Anyone wanting to come along will find themselves helping with litter picking, cleaning, tidying and gardening. Just turn up in old clothes with gloves if possible.

In early May, Cheshire West and Chester Council's Streetscene Neighbourhood Environmental Action Team began a tidy-up of Northwich car park as part of an excellent partnership approach in support of the work to be done on 22nd May. Tesco (next to the station) is also being excellent "friends" of Northwich station by providing spades, forks and pruners to help with station improvements.

Further information on recent improvements, together with photographs, can be viewed at: <http://www.mcrua.org.uk/chairmansblog/2010/05/14/friends-of-northwich-station-2/>

Winsford News: Bring on the Dragons!

Local residents from Greenfield's Park successfully took on the Dragons in NWIEP's (Northwest Improvement & Efficiency Partnership) Dragon Factor event held recently in Wigan.

Representatives from the local residents group and officers from partnership agencies entered the Dragons Den in what was to prove a successful bid to raise £30,000 to support DIG-IT! - a community allotments project to promote community involvement and healthier lifestyles.

The secured funding will enable work to commence in the near future on an allotments site and will provide residents with an opportunity to produce fresh, locally grown vegetables for the area.

These schemes actively contribute to the priorities of West Winsford Neighbourhood Partnership and Winsford and Rural East Area Partnership Board in reducing health inequalities within the area. In the development of their plans and activities, the boards are seeking to promote the consumption of fruit and vegetables and are investigating the feasibility of additional provision of allotments.



To keep up to date on the DIG IT! project, you can join the new Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/DIG-IT-Greenfields-Community-Allotment-Garden/114700278570108>

For further information about the 'DIG IT!' project, contact Juliet Aitken on 01606 813421 and for further information on Neighbourhood Management in West Winsford, contact Paul Hickson on 01606 867740.

"Playday" plans for August 2010

'Playday' is a nationwide campaign which celebrates children and young people's right to play and local agencies are currently working together to provide fantastic 'Playday' events across the borough during August to give thousands of children, young people and communities the opportunity to get together. 'Playday' also gives local organisations and businesses the opportunity to promote their work and build links with the local community.

We'll be giving further information in forthcoming bulletins in the run-up to August.

Outstanding members of the community to be recognised within CH64 area

A special event is being planned to recognise members of the community in the CH64 post code around Neston. The “*Celebrating Youth and Community Achievement Awards*” are centred around Neston, Parkgate, Burton, Ness, Little Ness, Riverside and Willaston and will be held on the evening of 30th June at Neston High School.

Partner organisations including Cheshire West and Chester Council, Cheshire Police and the Fire & Rescue Service will host the evening and are looking to celebrate the achievements of outstanding members of the community in a variety of categories under the ‘Safer and Stronger’ banner. Categories include awards for positive contributions to the community, sporting achievements and contributions towards improving the environment.

If you know any deserving members of these communities who you would like to nominate, a form can be downloaded from www.aboutmyarea.co.uk/CH64 or telephone 01244 973464. The closing date for nominations is Friday 4th June.

* * *

The awards evening will also signify the culmination of activity which began at the end of April involving a number of organisations working together to increase community spirit and make positive environmental changes. During the **Neston Cleaner, Safer, Greener Week**, teams worked hard on a number of initiatives to improve the local environment by addressing concerns raised by the community and relevant partners such as anti-social behaviour; problematic parking; fly-tipping; litter; graffiti; and speeding.



Cheshire West and Chester Neighbourhood Environmental Action Team and Streetscene strived to remove graffiti in the local area and have worked in partnership with Virgin and BT to paint over communication boxes. Within Neston town centre, sections of pathways have been deep cleansed, teen shelters painted and a tidy-up of Stanney Fields Park was undertaken. In partnership with the Fire & Rescue Service, numerous visits were made to local businesses to address waste and storage disposal.

For further information, contact Jane Makin, Community Safety Partnership Manager, on 01244 973464 or e-mail: jane.makin@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

* * *

Competition to re-name Neston Community and Youth Centre: The closing date has been extended for entries to re-name the £1m multi-use Neston Community and Youth Centre which offers a wide range of facilities and classes for everyone in the CH64 area, from belly dancing and flower arranging to a youth club and corporate meeting rooms.

As the current name is a bit long, the competition is looking to find something a bit snappier that reflects the service and facilities on offer at the centre. The winner will receive a £100 cash prize with the first runner-up winning an MP4 player. A selection of other prizes will also be up for grabs including free room hire at the centre for a child’s birthday party.

The competition is open to all ages and there is no limit to the number of entries each person can send in. Entries should be either e-mailed to admin@nestoncyc.co.uk or dropped off at the centre to Helen Barrie, Centre Manager, marked *Competition Entry – Confidential*. Please add your name, address, telephone number and/or e-mail address. The closing date for entries is **Friday 28th May**.

Rural West “Wellbeing” Days

The Rural West Team is promoting forthcoming “Health Promotion Days” in conjunction with NHS Western Cheshire as follows:-

- **Saturday 26th June** between 10.00am and 3.00pm at High Street Church, Malpas (as part of Malpas Family Weekend)
- **Friday 9th July** between 10.00am and 3.00pm at Neston Town Hall

Why not drop in and discover more about the different aspects of health, including physical and social exercise, holistic therapy and both general and specific advice on maintaining good health. In addition, if anyone would like to participate and promote their service area by running a display stand at either event, contact the Rural West Team on 01244 973334 or e-mail: ruralwest@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Feedback from recent Community Forums

City – met on 12th April and received a presentation on the new Healthy Living Centre to be based in Blacon, but which will operate on a “hub and spoke” model across Chester and deliver services to the city and its suburbs. The service is designed to compliment any gaps in the Health and Wellbeing agenda rather than duplicate any existing services. The Illegal Money Lending Team emphasised the effects that illegal money lenders, often referred to as “loan sharks”, can have in a community and advised on how to identify and report these criminals”. West Cheshire Credit Union representatives were on hand to advise on their offer of an alternative form of savings and loans.

Date of next meeting: Monday 14th June, 6.00pm, Wesley Methodist Church, St John Street

Northwich East, Shakerley and Marbury – met on 13th April and introduced Rose Proudfoot as one of the two newly elected members of the UK Youth Parliament for West Cheshire, whose term of office runs to the end of February 2012. The forum was pleased to also welcome Northwich Regal Cinema Trust, a volunteer group developing plans to re-open the cinema as a multi-use venue largely operated by volunteers. To date the group has carried out an extensive consultation along with a business plan highlighting their vision for the cinema. Inspector Paul Loughlin of the Northwich Neighbourhood Policing Team gave an update on recent performance figures relating to local crime and anti-social behaviour issues.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7th July, 7.00pm, Northwich Memorial Hall

Frodsham, Helsby and Weaver – met on 14th April and received presentations from Weaver Valley Partnership which included an update on the Northwich Vision and Town Centre improvements; an update on the partnership approach the Council and British Waterways are taking regarding Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge; the latest with proposals for a wind farm; and an update on the Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpersons Site Identification Study which has appointed consultants “Ekosgen” to appraise the site shortlist in terms of their availability and deliverability.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 15th July, 7.00pm, Frodsham Scout Hall, Overton

Blacon – One Voice for Blacon met on 4th May and heard about a bid to develop Dutton’s Spec (by the canal at Poets Corner) into a safe picnic and fishing area. In addition, there was a presentation from Inspector Steve Beddows from the Chester Outer Team about changes in the policing model to provide a higher quality service utilising local knowledge and detection skills. He also outlined the graded response system when reporting a crime. There was an update on developments around Blacon High School – the appointment of a new Head was ongoing and National Challenge Trust School status had been approved.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6th July, 6.00pm, Holy Trinity Church, Blacon

Forthcoming Community Forum Dates

Hoole, Upton and Newton	Monday 24th May , 7.00pm, St Werburgh’s and St Columba’s Primary School, Hoole
Eddisbury	Tuesday 1st June , 7.00pm, Sandiway Methodist Church Hall, Weaverham Road, Sandiway
Gowy	Tuesday 1st June , 6.30pm, Tarvin Community Centre
Northwich West and Abbey	Thursday 3rd June , 7.00pm, Leftwich Community Primary School
Broxton	Thursday 10th June , 6.30pm, Tilston War Memorial Hall
Boughton Heath, Vicars Cross and Overleigh	Wednesday 16th June , 6.00pm, St Luke’s Church, Huntington
Winsford	Wednesday 16th June , 7.00pm, Winsford Library
Central, Grange, Westminster and Rossmore	Monday 21st June , 6.00pm, Ellesmere Port Civic Hall
Groves, Whitby, Sutton and Manor	Wednesday 30th June (time and venue to be confirmed)
Neston, Parkgate, Ledsham and Willaston	Friday 9th July , Neston Cricket Club – Rural West “Health Promotion Day” (see article on page 5)
Mickle Trafford	Wednesday 21st July , 6.30pm, Hey House, Fiddlers Lane, Saughall

Skills course for young drivers

The Cheshire Safer Roads Partnership is part-funding a Pass Plus Xtra training course specifically aimed at new drivers who have recently passed their driving test, aged between 17 and 25 and who live in the Cheshire West and Chester Council area.

The course is in two parts: a theory session and six on-road training modules covering driving in towns, all weather conditions, on rural roads, at night, on dual carriageways and motorways.

The next available theory sessions are:-

- ⇒ **Thursday 24th June** at Ellesmere Port Fire Station HQ
- ⇒ **Monday 28th June** at Winsford Fire Station HQ

Participants may be entitled to a discount on their car insurance if they complete the course within 12 months of passing their driving test.

A limited number of places are available – to book a place, contact James Stenning on 01244 977177 or e-mail: james.stenning@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

..... and finally, thank you to those readers who responded to our **questionnaire** about the bulletin in last month's edition. Whilst it wasn't a huge response (this must mean you're happy with the format and content of the bulletin!) those who responded gave us some feedback which we will try and incorporate into future editions. We've also extended the deadline for responses to **Monday 7th June** so if anyone would like to complete a questionnaire giving feedback, it will be sent out as a word document along with this bulletin.

FEEDBACK.....your views or news

Your comments on this bulletin, or any partnership news you would like to share, should be forwarded to either:-

Alistair Jeffs, Head of Policy, Performance, Partnerships & Transformation
E-mail: alistair.jeffs@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

or

Julie Gill, Head of Resources
E-mail: julie.gill@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

What to look forward to in **June's** edition 17:-

- ⇒ *Feedback from the May meetings of the **Thematic Partnerships***
- ⇒ *Further details on the **August Playday** programme*
- ⇒ *Update on the **Grozone** project in Northwich*
- ⇒ *The latest on a **Community Cohesion Strategy** for West Cheshire*