

Team Winsford and Rural East

An Update from the Winsford and Rural East Area Working Team

Issue: 1 | July 2011



Welcome to the first publication of the Winsford and Rural East Partnership newsletter providing a summary of the latest work of the Area Working Team.

Council to ascertain whether these could be developed.

Improving Health & Reducing Health Inequalities

Don't be a Cancer Chancer in Winsford

Cancer Chancer is a project that is run across 11 Primary Care Trusts in Manchester and Cheshire to raise awareness of breast, bowel and lung cancer and the importance of early diagnosis.

The programme will achieve its outcome through:

- the training of Cancer Champions to talk about the symptoms and diagnosis of cancer at local events and work places.
- update training sessions with local GPs.
- delivery of cancer awareness social marketing campaign.

In addition three drop-in sessions were held in Winsford throughout July.

Growing Spaces & Promoting Healthy Eating

A key activity towards improving the health of the population is through the promotion of healthy eating and the focus of the Area Team has been two – fold: firstly through increasing the number of growing spaces and secondly through developing workshops to promote healthy eating.

A number of partners have been successful in increasing the number of growing spaces through the development of community gardens in West Winsford and working with local elected members and Grange Community Primary School to develop community growing spaces on surplus playing fields. There are further plans to increase the number of growing spaces through the identification of potential sites in Winsford Wharton and working with Winsford Town

Green Doctor Project



Building on the good work that has taken place on Glebe Green and Greenfields Park, the Green Doctor Project has now expanded to include the Over estate and targeted streets in the Dene area - utilising funding from Cheshire West and Chester Council's Second Homes Taxation Fund and Winsford & Rural East APB. As well as improving energy efficiencies and saving money, the Green Doctors will focus on referring to support services such as CAB where appropriate.

Reducing Worklessness

Adult Learners Week 2011

On Tuesday 17th May, WINCAP held an Open Day to celebrate Adult Learners Week supported by the Workforce Development Team at CWACC. The Open Day was attended by more than thirty members of the community who were provided with the opportunity to find out more about training courses such as numeracy, literacy and ICT. In addition the Open Day promoted volunteering opportunities and further options to undertake the community volunteering qualification (QVC). To make the day more interactive for the community a number of taster sessions were delivered in Arts and Crafts, Sign Language and Zumba. The day was a great success and WINCAP are planning another open day in 2012.

Work Clubs

Cheshire West & Chester Council with support from Winsford & Rural East Area Partnership has commenced the delivery of two Work clubs at the Verdin Exchange and The Edge, Over every Thursday. The Work Clubs have now been running for three months and initial analysis is very encouraging with a total of 76 residents accessing the clubs with four

West Winsford Update

GGO Branding & Communication Plan

Local residents have come up with GGO as the preferred name for neighbourhood working in West Winsford. GGO stands for Glebe Green, Greenfields Park and Over. Branding ideas have been developed and work is progressing to harmonise how the different agencies develop publicity, so that there is a one team approach.

GGO Community Planning

A series of events involving residents and partners have taken place to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for West Winsford. Local residents have spoken to over 450 local people regarding their top priorities for the neighbourhood. The top three priorities have been confirmed as:

- 1) The Environment/Anti-Social Behaviour
- 2) Unemployment
- 3) Children and Young People

An action plan is being developed and a draft will be produced in August. Local residents are planning to communicate the plan with the rest of the neighbourhood by way of a Community Fun Day.

Involvement Plan

As part of the community planning process, local residents were asked '*What are the main barriers to getting involved?*' The main barriers identified were themed around confidence, motivation and communication. With this in mind a draft involvement plan has been produced to remove these barriers. Building on the Five to Strive Project which was successfully delivered in the neighbourhood, an Involvement Pathway is currently being developed by local residents. The pathway will give local residents a spectrum of information regarding what opportunities are available to them in order to develop their skills, capability and knowledge.

Local residents have developed a Mission Statement for the GGO Initiative and the role of Community Champions is being developed in the form of 'GGO Getters!' The role of GGO Getters will be to work with the GGO team.

persons achieving a positive work outcome to date.

The Work Clubs are constantly evolving and there are plans during September 2011 to establish access to advice services at the Work Clubs with support from Cheshire West & Chester Councils Benefits Advisors.

Increasing Volunteering in Winsford & Rural East

An important element in providing the skills to support residents back into work is through volunteering and more specifically accredited volunteering. The Area Partnership Board currently support the position of Volunteer Coordinator at WINCAP and the progress that they have made in promoting volunteering was recently recognised through an Ofsted Inspection.

A number of key partners including Mid-Cheshire College and WINCAP have also been developing a local website to promote volunteering opportunities and it is anticipated that this will be up and running in autumn 2011.

Children and Young People

Condom Distribution Scheme

Members of Central and Eastern Cheshire Primary Care Trust Public Health Improvement Team supported by Connexions and Winsford & Rural East Area Partnership Board delivered a multi agency training day on the Condom Distribution Scheme. The event was attended by 14 people from a wide spectrum of partner agencies both voluntary and statutory, who were trained to deliver the scheme. The training included knowledge and understanding of sexually transmitted infections, child protection and the practicalities of operating the Condom Distribution Scheme.

Junior Neighbourhood Wardens

The Junior Warden Scheme in West Winsford is progressing with 14 young people from across the neighbourhood involved. Recently the wardens attended a team building day at Reaseheath College which was a great success. The next session will involve estate walkabouts, reporting issues and cleaning grotspot areas.