

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS
MARCH 2008

Communities that are safe and feel safe

Reduce perception of crime

- All crimes, vehicle crime and burglary dwellings are all below target and a new violent crime strategy was introduced on 10th March 2008 to be in place for the new year. Burglary dwelling targets have been achieved with an 11% reduction – this is a major achievement. Vehicle crime reduction of 319 offences, equating to 29%.

Reduce anti-social behaviour

- ASB has been reduced by 2.2% during the past year. There were only 3 months where the ASB reports were higher than the previous year.

Improved safety through reduced recorded crime

- Domestic violence arrest rate is excellent at 88%.
- 15 hate crimes reported via new system.

Better Environment

- A Home insulation scheme is being developed for implementation in the next financial year which will tackle CO2 and the ever increasing issue of fuel poverty which is rising rapidly due to current energy price increases
- Total amount of residual waste sent to landfill was 22,300 tonnes which is 300 tonnes less than the previous year.
- Dry recycling target was exceeded at 22% (target 21.5%)
- Initial targets for CO2 reduction are being negotiated with GOWM through the LAA, we are looking at a 2% yr on yr reduction to achieve the 60% reduction by 2050. Bromsgrove District will be looking to reduce CO2 emissions by 66,000 tonnes by 2010.

Town Centre

- Draft AAP prepared by consultants, being considered and revised. Meeting to plan the management of consultation organised
- Information sent to retailer regarding technical information about the market hall site and approach being made to retailer to discuss next stages.

Longbridge

- There are 30 acres on Cofton Centre, 12 acres of which have been let.
- BDC has approved the Area Action Plan, which includes 700+ houses to be developed on the East Works site.
- Area Action Plan submission submitted to Secretary of State on 28th March 2008 and consultation on submitted AAP commenced for weeks.

Health & Well Being

Physical Activity:

- Bromsgrove Extended Community Activity Network (BECAN) well established.
- Awaiting feedback from Sport England on Best Foot Forward, Keep on Moving, Try New Things and Activity Referral following Stage 2 submissions.
- Successful Awards Evening held in February 2008.

Smoking:

- National No Smoking Day 12/3/08 – Fun Run held at Abbey Stadium. Over 100 runners took part, with many having serious chats about quitting smoking and taking away information.
- 'Heart Smart Homes' being developed and will launch on 4th July at Charford Children's Centre.
- 'Walk the Warrior Way' on smoking available as a powerpoint presentation to schools via the Tobacco Alliance, supported by local partners. BDC Environmental Health distributing 'Stop Smoking, Start Living' booklet through visiting teams. New 'Win Win' investment pack for businesses currently being distributed.

Children & Young People

- Participation in 2 hours PE per week: In 2006 the figure was 70% participation against the criteria. The target for 2007 was 75%, and the total achieved was 78%. The aim is to reach 85% participation in 2008. The total currently stands at 82%, which is excellent.
- Following the success of the event held in November 2007, a further event around participatory budgeting is being planned.
- A sub-group has been convened to ensure that play across the District is co-ordinated.

Older People

- Started mapping exercise with theme group partners.
- Have identified several gaps and discussed some creative solutions, including working with the Health & Well Being theme group to look at a 'Sloppy Slipper' campaign and a Mental Health training event.
- 5 new members identified to join the Older Persons' Forum resulting from the AGM held on 13th March 2008.

Housing

- Review of the South Market Housing Area this project will be brought forward to July 2008 to coincide with the outcome of the Housing Demand Study.
- Delivery of affordable housing in Bromsgrove and rural areas – Year one completion on target, with indications remaining positive for the remaining period.

Transport

- MP briefing on train station;
- Drafted communications plan for station redevelopment with Network Rail;
- Attended detailed project planning workshop and funding workshop for station (multiple funders);
- Working with BRUG and Bromsgrove Society on a historical dimension to the station.

Compact

- The event between BDC heads of service and voluntary and community sector organisations has been re-arranged for 17th September 2008.
- VCS organisations are preparing content for LCD display screens at the Hub.

Communications

- Agreed funding and approach to future of Neighbourhood Area Committees;
- 45% response rate on Customer Panel (quality of life survey).