

**South Ward Neighbourhood
Management Partnership
A review of 2007**



South Ward
Neighbourhood Management Partnership

Cleaner and Greener

We are aiming to:

- Raise levels of satisfaction with the look and feel of the neighbourhood.*
- Reduce levels of concern about rubbish and fly tipping.*
- Create more and better used green spaces for all.*

Parks and Open spaces

- South Ward has many disused and derelict open spaces that attract high levels of fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour.
- Neighbourhood Management commissioned a Landscape Architect to scope parks and open spaces across the area, identifying existing resources and making recommendations for improvements.
- The study is informing a wider strategy and work programme for targeting Neighbourhood Management resources where they can make the most difference.



In 2007/08 we will:

- Develop Jubilee Park on the Coronation.
- Revamp the three shopping parades on South Ward.
- Begin a programme of cleaning the Rhynes.



Rubbish and fly tipping

- Neighbourhood Management has worked with partners to organise Action Days and clean ups across the area.

- We have also been working with North Somerset Housing and Streets and Open Spaces to develop a co-ordinated fly-tipping strategy.
- We have recruited two Community Wardens and two Cleaning Operatives to tackle the rubbish problems in the area.
- The Wardens will be out and about in the neighbourhood from the end of December 2007.



Community Transport

- Consultations with residents brought up the difficulty of moving around the area.
- Residents have also expressed difficulty in accessing some local services between the estates.
- Partners proposed the purchase of a Community Bus to better link the area and help residents to access services.
- We approved the purchase of a DDA compliant bus for this purpose which will be delivered in February 2008.

Children and Young people

We are aiming to:

Ensure young people have a voice in South Ward.

Create more positive opportunities for young people in their leisure time.

Support for young people not in employment, education or training.

Enhance support for parents.

Help to coordinate and champion the needs of young people in South Ward.

4 youth

- A local survey carried out in 2006 highlighted that young people felt that they were unable to influence decision making.
- A youth survey was developed to ask local youth about their concerns in the area and what they would like to change.
- Outreach work was also carried out at different times and over 100 young people were spoken to and completed the survey.
- It became clear that young people have many of the same concerns as adults and want to be involved in making improvements to the area.
- A youth event was organised in June to develop a local youth forum, over 75 young people from the area attended.
- Activities included human table football, a graffiti workshop and break dancing demonstration.



- The first formal youth forum was held two weeks after the youth event and now takes place fortnightly.
- Young people decided on the name '4 Youth'.
- The core group of young people presented at an event to encourage agencies to build in more youth involvement and input into their work programmes.



- The core members of 4 Youth attended a residential training course in Okehampton in early November.
- The group took part in activities to help them further develop and prioritise ideas to work on.
- The group have decided that they will work on a community litter pick and wildlife projects in the area.



Detached Youth Workers

- Concerns about groups of young people hanging around with nothing to do were highlighted by local residents.
- Local young people expressed frustration at not having enough to do in the area and not having enough youth workers.
- We have employed two detached youth workers to engage with young people out on the streets and shopping areas.
- The workers will start in January 2008.

Crime and Community Safety

We are aiming to:

Reduce the level of crimes.

Increase reporting of domestic abuse.

Reduce the number of repeat victims of domestic abuse.

Ensure that young offenders have access to employment and training opportunities.

Canberra Road Park - The Coronation

- A Community meeting was held to hear residents' concerns regarding the Canberra Road Park.
- The meeting enabled local residents to express concerns and obtain information. They were also able to meet local workers and build relationships.
- This first meeting has evolved into a monthly coffee morning held on the estate.
- Local organisations and agencies attend the coffee morning which has helped to build trust, achieve change and deliver accountability.

Joint tasking briefings

- There are many issues in the area that require an effective multi agency response.
- Neighbourhood Management helped to co-ordinate all the agency data and intelligence gathered through community consultations to develop a monthly 'hot spot' map of the local area.
- We have organised a fortnightly joint tasking meeting to target resources and build stronger partnerships.
- Housing, police, environmental protection and streets and open spaces participate regularly in these meetings.

Mobile CCTV camera

- The Neighbourhood Management Board has agreed to purchase a mobile CCTV camera that can be deployed in response to intelligence gathered at the joint tasking briefings.
- The camera will be managed in partnership with the CCTV control centre based at the Town Hall.
- Images from the camera will be reviewed in the CCTV suite and it is hoped that the Community Wardens will be able to obtain images to handheld PDAs.

Domestic Abuse

- South Ward accounts for 45% of all domestic abuse incidents reported to the police.
- Domestic abuse has a devastating impact on victims and their families, including children.
- More support is needed for victims to raise confidence to report crime, to prevent further violence and to bring perpetrators to justice.
- Neighbourhood Management has worked in partnership with North Somerset Housing and CSDAT to employ an Independent Domestic Abuse Advocate for South Ward.

Employment Training & Skills

Work with partners to ensure South Ward residents can access opportunities.

Increase the levels of qualification.

Reduction in the number of people claiming incapacity benefit.

Ensuring that South Ward residents benefit from strategic developments in Weston.

Training

- Local statistics have shown that residents in South Ward have low levels of formal qualifications and that some are not ready to attend a full training course but need a progression route with an easier entry point into training.
- Neighbourhood Management funded a construction taster course that enabled residents to try out different construction skills before committing to a full time course or employment.
- 5 residents completed the course and the feedback was very positive. 2 residents have gone on to sign up for more intensive courses at Weston College.

