

**STOURBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE-
21ST MARCH 2005.**

REPORT OF AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGERS

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To update members of the public and area committee on the key achievements in the Lye and Stourbridge managed neighbourhoods during 2003/4 and to outline the proposed and new activities.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Neighbourhood Management was introduced to target the extreme social, economic and physical disadvantage and exclusion within Dudley Borough. The managed neighbourhoods are designated based on the indices of multiple deprivation. The indices are derived from levels of educational attainment, unemployment, poor health, housing conditions, higher proportions of elderly, young and vulnerable people, higher levels of teenage pregnancy, higher levels of substance misuse, higher levels of people with mental health problems and shorter life expectancy.

2.2 They show that Enville Street and Lye & Claycroft are in the worst 10% of the most deprived areas of the Borough. In straight forward terms this means that it all adds up to create major problems for the current and the future statutory public services and for communities themselves. The balance needs to be redressed in such a way that the residents are valued partners in control of the changes needed and that public, voluntary and community agencies work together in partnership to address these community issues. The roles of your neighbourhood managers are to coordinate the joint working between partners in your area and ensure genuine community engagement

2.3 This report covers achievements for last year and only the key new activities in both the Enville Street and Lye & Claycroft neighbourhoods for 2004 and what the aims are for 2005. It can be assumed that previous activities from 2003 are still going unless they were for a short time period only. The report illustrates the many issues and activities with which Neighbourhood Managers are involved and the wide variety of partners with whom they work to achieve joint outcomes for the people of the neighbourhoods.

3.0 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2004.

Activity	Main Partners
Tackling the Problem of Fly tipping in Enville Street & Lye – 48 hour response Enville Street - 6 loads of rubbish removed since July 2004	Housing, DUE, Future Skills

Stepping Stones - 1 load removed since July 2004. Lye & Claycroft has had 140 lots of rubbish removed between March 2003-March 2004. The Main areas Claycroft Place and Hill Bank	
“Get a Better Life Campaign” Enville Street & Lye – extending the campaign to engage marginalised, hard to reach community groups in learning and employment. Job Club held at LARA House in partnership with Job Club starting in January 2005 on Thursday mornings at LARA House in partnership with Future Skills	Jobs Centre Plus, Future Skills, Education
Development of Community Facility at Beauty Bank Primary School – to create better opportunities for learning/basic skills/ crafts and ultimately leading to employment opportunities. Parents & children practised their painting & decorating skills during the Summer Holidays brightening the rooms up & with the help of a grant from Area Committee to complete the transformation. Literacy & Numeracy, Flower Arranging, IT Classes & Childcare are some of the main classes held at the present time.	Learning Link Worker & Head Beauty Bank Primary, Stourbridge/Dudley Colleges, Education, Jobs Centre Plus
Community Fun Day – Enville Street – June 19 th to engage with community, offering information and support in respect of Age Concern, Housing, Credit Unions, Children’s Information Service. Approximately 200 people of all ages attended with card making, flower arranging, fire safety demonstration, games, face painting, bouncy castle. Lye – July 3 rd approximately 150 people of all ages and ethnic backgrounds attended. Activities included, crafts, flower arranging, Bouncy Castle, Cyberbus, Beauty Therapy, face painting, juggling, fire demonstration. The Wheels event took place at Wollescote Primary School in July. This gave children an opportunity to learn about road safety, see a professional stunt cyclist demonstration and also have a go at the stunts themselves.	Beauty Bank Primary School, The Robin Woods Centre, Fire, Police, Age Concern, DUE, Housing, CEDD, Events Team Valley Road Youth & Community Centre, Fire, Police, Housing, CEDD, Sure Start, Asian Women’s Centre, Pedmore Fields Tenants & Residents Association, Local Businesses, Cyber bus
Working with partners to ensure youth provision is of high quality and relevant to the needs of the young people living in Enville Street & Lye	The Robin Woods Centre, CEDD, Education, Police, Cyber bus, Local Clubs LARA, Lye & Wollescote Partnership
Extension of Neighbourhood Management to problematic satellite areas to address specific issues – Supporting Pedmore Fields and Wollaston Farm Tenants & Residents Associations with crime and anti-social behaviour issues in particular, fly tipping problems.	Tenants & Residents Associations, Police, CEDD, Ward Members, Housing, and any other partners required to resolve specific issues
Development of Community Facility at The Robin Woods Centre - to engage with the community and	The Robin Woods Centre, CEDD,

<p>signpost into learning, improve job ready status and prospects as well as other learning and social activities. This has been hindered to a great extent as the lease on the building has not yet been resolved and funding issues.</p>	<p>Community Learning Worker, Job Centre Plus</p>
<p>Smoke Alarms – fitting of free 10 year smoke alarms together with a Home Safety Check for vulnerable people through door knocking and subsequent referral to Fire Service for check & fitting. £2000 obtained from successful Community Safety Bid to purchase 400 smoke alarms in Partnership with Stourbridge Fire Station to cover Stourbridge & Lye areas</p>	<p>West Midlands Fire Service</p>
<p>Young People’s Activities – including summer youth programmes/sports scheme – A Month of activities for the young people was operated from The Robin Woods Centre – they were taken on holiday for one week and the other three involved indoor and outdoor sports activities along with visits to Telford and Stourport. There was one week of sports activities on Wollaston Rec LARA Youth Group for 8-13 year olds meet every Wednesday at Lye Community Centre, Girls Group for 12-16 year olds meet at LARA House on Saturday mornings. Family learning activities held throughout August at Lye Community Centre</p>	<p>Sports development, education, CEDD, The Robin Woods Centre, Police, LARA, cyberbus</p>
<p>To improve the environment – along Enville Street from the ring road. Fortunately the demolition work has now commenced, which has now resolved many of the problems or rough sleepers, drug users, rubbish and rats</p>	<p>DUE, The Robin Woods Centre, Beauty Bank Primary School, Police</p>
<p>Vulnerable people – working with agencies to identify specialist service approach to the needs of specific individuals where they present as a community issue</p>	<p>NCH, Beauty Bank Primary School, Police, Social Services, Housing and other partners as necessary</p>
<p>Community Safety Group Meetings – Held quarterly to identify solutions to issues raised by local people. Various issues raised including, fly tipping, traffic nuisance, drug supply and possession, anti-social behaviour, repairing of cars on the highway, motor scooters etc</p>	<p>Police, Warehouse, Y.O.T. CEDD, LARA, Gibbs Road House, Job Centre Plus, Aquarius, fire service</p>
<p>Substance Misuse Drop in Sessions – Facilitate weekly drop in sessions for people experiencing difficulties with substance misuse. Parents Support Group meet on a fortnightly basis at LARA House for support/ advice to parents/ carers of drug users.</p>	<p>LARA, Warehouse</p>
<p>Lye Winter Fayre – Held annually in November to engage community, provide social activities and enable local schools and groups to fund raise for their organisation.</p>	<p>Lye & Wollescote Partnership, Christ Church, local primary schools, local voluntary organisations & Residents Associations</p>
<p>Ladies Day in Lye - Annual event held in March as part of International Women’s Week. To bring ladies together to</p>	<p>CEDD, Asian Women’s Centre, Sure Start,</p>

celebrate and learn about each other's cultures. Developing community understanding and cohesion. First event held at Lye Community Centre with approximately 100 local ladies attending	Health for Lyfe, Lye Library, Chinese Society. Dudley Women's Forum
Sure Start – Lye, Rufford & Wollescote – Member of Steering Committee to provide support for families with children under 5 – working with them. Examples of activities already established include: Information shop established on Lye Cross. Play and Stay sessions being held in local Primary Schools. Story Time sessions being held weekly in Lye Library Baby massage classes being held weekly at Lye Community Centre Parents Group meeting at Orchard Partnership premises.	Sure Start, NCH, CEDD, PCT, DVCS, Social Services, Education, Regeneration, DREC, EMAS, Job Centre Plus, Chief Executives Dept

4.0 NEW INITIATIVES AND FUTURE PROPOSALS

Activity	Main partners
Enville Street Gardening Project – garden clearance for elderly/disabled residents involving local volunteers	BCTV, Groundworks Black Country, Housing, Local young people
To improve local sport and recreational facilities for Enville Street – exploring the lack of safe outdoor space to play and needs of local community and schools for outdoor play space	DUE, Education, Housing, Ward Members, Local Youth, Ground Work Black Country
Redevelop disused drying area in Claycroft Place – to improve the appearance of the area and provide facilities for younger children and elderly residents	Housing, Ground Work Black Country, CEDD
Redevelop Haygreen Field – investigate possible uses for former Landfill site	Groundworks Black Country, DUE, CEDD, Rufford Primary School,
Furniture Recycling Venture – to reduce the amount of furniture removed from the area, by recycling where possible, engage and retrain local residents into a new trade to include furniture van driving and removal lifting skills together with refurbishment of furniture. To undertake a feasibility study and undertake an exercise in market research to assess the need.	Future Skills, Ward Members, Local people, Job Centre Plus via Future Skills, local businesses, St. Thomas's Network, local Colleges and Schools
Consultation exercise on land adjacent to Bath/Turney Road – Investigate possible usage to transform the overgrown plot	Residents, Beauty Bank Primary School, Planning, Youth, Groundworks Black Country
Health Forum – Encourage take up of residents in classes	School, Age Concern,

for healthy eating (5 a day pieces of fruit), quit smoking, gentle exercise, encourage walking train to school idea, obesity, teenage pregnancies, get cooking (cooking on a limited budget)	PCT, Robin Wood Centre
Regeneration of Canal side – get residents involved in plans for the redevelopment of the canal adjacent to their homes which will improve the environment and impact on their daily lives	DUE, Residents, Elected Members, School, PCT, Developers, Planners

5.0 FEEDBACK

5.1 A random sample of feedback from the Evaluation Sheets of courses and events undertaken during the year:-

- “It has been fun having the children doing a project with us through the School Holidays”
- “We have both learned a lot from this Project”
- “It has been great working with qualified teachers”.
- “Very useful and encouraging. I have found this very useful and rewarding as a parent.”
- “Cool – it helps to talk to someone about your worries.”
- “Group work – great to talk to others in similar situation”.
- “Given my child confidence”
- “I have made new friends, gained new skills and great to get out of the House I live on my own and appreciate the help the Tutor has put into these classes”
- “The Support Lady was wonderful”
- “I enjoyed meeting new people and I am proud of my newly developed skills”
- “Really enjoyed attending, didn’t know what to expect but it was great to see all members of the communities taking part. It is the first time I have seen threading being done – fascinating to watch – worth queuing for – I had a great day out.”

6.0 FINANCE

6.1 The Neighbourhood Management team and activities are funded by Neighbourhood Renewal Fund from Central Government and by partner agency resources.

7.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND DIVERSITY

7.1 This report complies fully with the Council’s policies on equal opportunities and diversity.

8.0 LAW

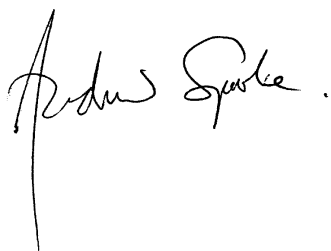
- 8.1 Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, enables the Council to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well being of the Borough or any part of it.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the members of the area committee note the report and note the activities that are being undertaken by neighbourhood managers by bringing together partners, services and communities within the managed neighbourhoods.

10.0 INFORMATION

- 10.1 If you want to discuss the Neighbourhood Management Plans for Enville Street or Lye & Claycroft. Barbara Hollis can be contacted at The Crown Centre, Stourbridge, DY8 1YB, telephone 01384 813759, mobile 07900 161463 or by email at: barbara.hollis@dudley.gov.uk Dawn Colbourne can be contacted at Lye Community Centre, Crosswalks Road, LYE, DY9 8BH, telephone 01384 812357, mobile 07799 070557 or by email at dawn.colbourne@dudley.gov.uk



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