



MY NEIGHBOURHOOD

AGENDA ITEM No.4

Avonmouth and Kingsweston Neighbourhood Partnership

Tuesday 11th September 2012

Report of: Hayley Ash, Neighbourhoods Department

Title: Lawrence Weston Community Research

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To note contents of the report
To discuss findings

Background

In August 2011 the Neighbourhood Committee agreed to fund £5000 towards a piece of Community Research in Lawrence Weston, the Bristol Futures Team in BCC further contributed £2500.

The aims of the project were to

1. Raising the skills levels in the local community
 - 10 local people were trained to undertake the community research. Training included: communication skills, customer service skills, improve understanding of Health and safety issues and research techniques
 - Application forms were completed and Interviews carried out.
 - Several members of the Research team have gone on to take part in additional activities such as the Planning Group, Henacre Action Group, additional paid research as part of the Henacre Green Space consultation, the Riddinglease Shopper Survey and the Old College Site Consultation, and panel members for the Community First Grant Panel, to name just a few. Some of the Resident Researchers also input the completed questionnaires onto Survey Monkey
2. Providing paid work for local people

- Local people employed as researchers will be paid at national minimum wage plus a per hour holiday premium in place of paid holiday
- 3. Increase community engagement and raise awareness
 - Informed the community of services and activities being delivered locals via an information sheet
 - Ensure that 951 residents had a say in the way their community is developed for the future -

Copies of the Report will be available on the night. Key findings include

Key findings

Overall

51% of respondents are satisfied with where they live
 48% of respondents say that the area has not changed
 34% say it has got worse over the last 2 years

Housing

69% say the choice of housing is good or OK - 23% say that it is poor and needs improving
 66% say the quality of housing is good or OK - 27% of respondents say it is poor and needs improving
 56% say that the housing state of repair is good or OK - 36% of respondents say it is poor and needs improving

Environmental issues

13% rate the cleanliness of the streets as good - 42% say that the cleanliness of the streets is poor and needs improving
 Over 40% of respondents say that levels of pollution, dog control and clearance of rubbish are poor and need improvement

Parks and green spaces

53% say that the outdoor play equipment is poor and needs improving
 71% say that the access to nature is good or OK
 42% say that parks and green spaces are poor and need improving

Activities

53% say there are not enough activities for teenagers and 49% say there is not enough activities for children

Places to socialise

62% rate places to socialise as poor and in need of improvement

Job prospects

Only 2% say that job prospects are good with 60% saying it is poor and needs improvement

Policing

54% say that levels of policing are “Good” or “OK” with 38% saying it is poor and needs improving

76% of people say that levels of crime is a problem

78% of people say that anti-social behaviour is a problem

Influence

54% of respondents do not feel that they can influence decisions that affect their local area (only 14% felt that they could)

Travel, transport

Parking was cited as a problem by over 76% of respondents

87% of respondents agree that the cost of public transport is an issue, 77% say links to the city centre and jobs is a problem and 83% say links to the hospital is a problem

Communication

68% of respondents have access to the internet at home (24% of respondents do not access the internet at all)

Around 79% of people find out what is going on in Lawrence Weston through word of mouth

The local newsletter comes second (53%), this is no longer in print

18% get their information from Schools

When discussing the potential developments, such as the College Site, which might happen in the area the following preferences were revealed.

Key findings - employment and business

60% agreed that they did not want to see small industrial units

Over 80% wanted to see more shops

Over 83% wanted to see a small supermarket

66% did not want to see office space

57% wanted to see arts and craft workshops

53% wanted to see new start business units

59% wanted to see community business

59% wanted to see Market Stalls

Key findings - community facilities and services

Over 80% wanted to see a library
53% agreed that they wanted to see training rooms
80% wanted to see sports facilities
63% wanted to see arts facilities
76% wanted to see facilities for older people
80% wanted to see facilities for young people
69% agreed that they wanted to see employment, debt and benefit support
71% wanted to see health facilities

Key findings - housing

65% wanted to see more council or housing association homes
45% wanted to see private housing
50% agreed that they wanted to see houses with 4 bedrooms or more
73.4% said that they wanted to see smaller houses
51% agreed that they wanted to see flats or apartments
62% agreed that they would like to see Nursing and supported housing
Over 80% did not agree that a hostel was needed.

These findings will be disseminated through the newsletter (if the Well being application is successful) to local people and to service providers to inform their future service delivery. They will also inform the Community Plan.

We are working in partnership with the PCT (Health) and Ambition Lawrence Weston to deliver a Community Plan event on the 10th October. If you are interested in taking part please contact Hayley Ash on Hayley.ash@bristol.gov.uk or Helen Bone@lwfarm.co.uk