

Local Community Action Plan for Walton-on-the-Hill

Welcome to the Local Community Action Plan for Walton-on-the-Hill, which is aimed at developing a better understanding of local residents' needs and priorities.

We hope we have included some issues that you will recognise in the Plan and that you will agree with the actions recommended. We welcome your suggestions for change or improvement through the contact details provided below.

■ **What is the purpose of a Local Community Action Plan?**

The Borough Council works actively towards the achievement of sustainable and thriving communities for the people who live and work in the Borough, based on the principles of self-reliance, personal responsibility and freedom of choice. The Borough Council contributes to the overall sense of wellbeing in the Borough through the provision of high quality, value for money public services, and undertakes projects and initiatives that improve the quality of life.

The Plan has been developed by the local Borough Councillors in conjunction with local residents and is intended to support these principles.

The information gathered from this process will be shared with other service providers, such as Surrey County Council, the Police and the Local Strategic Partnership, to help inform service planning and delivery in the area and across the Borough.

■ **The Area**

The area covered by the plan is the village of Walton-on-the-Hill. This rural village lies in the north of the Borough. It has a population of around 2250 with a range of property types in several distinct but adjoining communities. Many residents have lived in the village for many years and others leave the village reluctantly to find larger or retirement homes in nearby areas. The area has some local services and amenities including shops, pubs, schools, churches and a wide range of local clubs, organisations and events, including the annual May Pageant. The village is also home to a wide range of businesses. There is a strong sense of village identity. Visitors, including walkers and cyclists, are attracted to the area, enjoying the well-known pond and access to the nearby common land and countryside. Many events and activities are also hosted by the golf club. The village has a strong sense of community, which is demonstrated by the Village Forum.

■ **How was the Plan developed?**

This Plan has been developed over recent months. It has been a planned process involving interviews, attendance at meetings and presentations, doorstep interviews, feedback sessions, focus groups, business breakfasts, youth projects, research and survey work.

Councillors have been working with representatives of key organisations in the area to understand the problems and identify ways in which they might be tackled. The outcomes reflected in the Plan will lead to improvements that are of value to local people and that they will notice.

The community has identified the following key issues:

Parking
Facilities for Young People
Supporting Local Business
Transport Links
Village Appearance
Recycling

Pedestrian Safety
M25 Noise
Road and Path Maintenance
Dog Fouling
Fly-tipping
Speeding Traffic

Although the Plan focuses on improvements, there has been much positive feedback from residents about the area they live in. Of particular value to local people is their local environment and community. However they feel that they do not receive equal access to services compared with other areas of the Borough.

The attached Plan contains:

- A description of each issue.
- The background to how it was identified.
- The location of the problem.
- What actions are to be taken to improve the situation.
- Who will lead and take responsibility for the actions to be taken.
- The resources needed.
- How long it will take to carry out the actions.
- What will be different when the actions have been carried out.

More detailed information regarding the community profile and the liaison and consultation processes used to develop this Plan are contained on the Borough Council website www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk, along with information on the Borough Community Plan and the Borough Council's Corporate Plan.

■ **What happens next?**

It will be possible to carry out some of the actions within this Plan almost immediately, but others will take some time to deliver. The Community Liaison Team will monitor the Plans on an on-going basis. Progress will be reported back to the public through a number of ways including:

- The Reigate and Banstead website (www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk)
- Borough News
- Feedback sessions.