

Transcript of Solihull Partnership DVD

Councillor Ken Meeson

Leader of Solihull Council and Chair of Solihull Partnership

“Solihull Partnership is our Local Strategic Partnership which brings together the Council together with representatives from all the other agencies. It also includes the third sector from voluntary organisations, other representatives from business and commerce and tries to represent the whole of the local community.

The priorities for the partnership are about building healthier communities, building stronger communities, creating safer communities, more prosperous communities and also improving the outcomes for all our children and young people.”

Children and Young People’s Trust

Herman Belle – Chelmsley Wood Children’s Centre

“I’m a family inclusion support worker; there are 11 Children’s Centres across the north and south of the Borough. We offer services for children from nought to five-years-old that includes children with additional needs. I have built a positive relationship with dads and children within the ‘Active Dads Groups’ being the only male working in a female environment. I hope that I’ve left a good impression with the dads and children who attend the Children’s Centres.”

Healthier Communities

(Voiceover)

“William Carr wanted to give up for his grandchildren and has found the scheme and the support he gets invaluable.”

William Carr – Land Rover Employee

“The Stop Smoking Service is really good. I don’t think I would have quit without it. I did try [quitting] before, but failed. I had a couple of text messages while I was at home on holiday, a couple of phone calls, very encouraging.”

(Voiceover)

“The Solihull Care Trust Stop Smoking Service is a project that gives people the chance to improve their lives and to make the sort of changes that will impact not just on them but also their families. A positive step forward for the health of the people of Solihull as a whole.”

William Carr – Land Rover Employee

“I believe I’m on track and I’ve got my mind in the frame that I’m not going to smoke; I don’t smoke!”

Prosperous Communities

Carole Hodson

Director of Corporate Services, Solihull Community Housing

“We first heard about the Future Jobs Fund through our colleagues at the Council, we heard that it was a scheme to help local young unemployed people get back into work with some meaningful work experience over a period of about six months or so. We came up with an idea to employ local young people to help decorate our blocks of flats. We’ve got hundreds of flats all over Solihull, many of them haven’t been decorated for a number of years,

and so its work that desperately needs doing and we haven't had the money to do it. So we thought if we could get young people trained in painting and decorating, not only would it help us get our flats decorated but it would help them too with some valuable work experience, getting them skills and giving them something they could use in the future"

Nicholas Cox – Future Jobs Fund Employee

"I started on 2nd November 2009. I'd been signing on for over twelve months and then the Jobcentre phoned me up and asked me to come for an interview, and I got the job through that; but before that I was window cleaning. It means it's given me money so I can do stuff with my friends on the weekend; I'm not just signing on anymore. I go out in the day instead of sitting in the house all day doing nothing. By the end of it I hope I can carry on doing painting and decorating as a job."

Safer Solihull

Ken Reed – Probation Service Officer

"Today we're working at the canal path in Richmond Road. There's been a spate of anti-social behaviour, graffiti and the canal paths are overgrown. In partnership with Safer Solihull and the British Waterways and the Neighbourhood Management Team from Solihull Council, we've co-ordinated some teams to address the problems of graffiti. We've painted over all the graffiti, removed graffiti from the side of some of the shops and we're widening the footpath and removing the moss and mildew that's a potential slip hazard.

There's a massive impact on projects like this because the offenders who are coming out can actually see the benefits that they're giving out to the community and the local neighbourhood. Local residents are benefiting because they've got a safer footpath they can use; it's a brighter, lighter atmosphere which is less threatening so the general public is gaining in that

respect. Some of the offenders are now learning new skills on the various projects that we carry out in the Solihull Borough.”

Stronger Communities

Hobs Moat Computer Club, Hobs Moat Library

Les Bicknell Learner, Hobs Moat Computer Club

“Without the two teachers here, Akhtar and Keith, I probably would have stopped. They’re fantastic, they’ve got so much patience, understanding and when I get confused, straight away they’re here to help me.”

Bob Walklate – Access IT co-ordinator

“It [Access IT] provides them with a computer, internet access for twelve months and the training necessary to enable them to gain the skills needed.”

Les Bicknell Learner, Hobs Moat Computer Club

“These things are changing lives for people and I really enjoy it and the more people realise this, computers for people with disabilities they’re fantastic but again you need the help to be trained to do that, you’ve got it here.”

Thank you to all our Partnership members and organisations

Music Jeeti Productions

The Solihull Partnership One Borough: an equal chance for all

a colebridge: communications production