

BRIEFING TO THE FAILSWORTH & HOLLINWOOD DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

Make the Most of your Money Event at Mather Street School

Portfolio Holder:

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1st August 2013

Purpose of Briefing

To provide the District Partnership with an update on the Make the most of your money event held at Mather Street School on 11th July 2013

Executive Summary

Cllr Sean Fielding asked the District Team to hold an event at Mather Street School in Failsworth West which would bring together a number of partners who would give residents information that would help them make the most of their incomes. In addition to this we were aware that there had previously been complaints about anti-social behaviour and fly tipping which allegedly emanated for some of the residents of private rented properties in the vicinity of the school

Recommendations

That the DE notes the report and considers how it wishes the District Partnership to carry out further consultation and advice projects around this theme.

5 BACKGROUND

5.1 Due to the austerity measures and changes to the benefit system many families in Oldham have had their incomes reduced as well as in some cases there outgoings

have increased. Oldham Council and its partners have been extremely proactive in helping residents to make the most of their incomes and to ensure that they are receiving the correct amount of benefits they are entitled to as well as lending money from ethical sources such as the Credit Union. As well as supporting a number of Borough wide initiatives the District Team have been proactively involved in awareness setting projects at our local superstores and at all the summer events which have taken place across Failsworth and Hollinwood. This particular event took place on Thursday 11 July 2013 from 2.45pm to 4.30pm. The venue was the large hall in Mather Street School which can be accessed from the junior playground by parents collecting children from the school.

Two members of the Failsworth and Hollinwood District Partnership team also made themselves available at the two front gates of the school, encouraging parents and residents passing by, to go into to the school to see what was on offer.

Lollipops and balloons were used as an incentive to get the children to go into the hall, thus encouraging parents to follow.

Services available on the day included:

- Environmental Health
- Benefit Advice
- Oldham Credit Union
- Private Landlord Team
- Trading Standards
- First Choice Homes
- Lifelong Learning
- Warm Homes
- Community Safety
- Supported by Failsworth and Hollinwood District Partnership Team.

Marketing

Leaflets were produced using the Oldham Council corporate 'Make the most of your money' template. These were circulated to 196 children at Mather Street Primary and a further 250 leaflets were circulated to adjoining streets; Mather Street, Dalton Street, Ward Street, Dean Street, Hardman Lane, Old Road.

Posters were placed in Failsworth Library, Tesco, Morrisons and the Medical Centre at Failsworth.

Both Failsworth Love Where You Live and Forward with Failsworth facebook pages posted notification of the event.

Approximately 25 residents approached services for general information. 3 residents asked for specific support from FCHO and 2 residents were given Credit Union start up packs. A number of residents expressed interest in Lifelong Learning and said they would contact the service for a copy of the prospectus which will be available from mid August.

6 CURRENT POSITION

The District Team will continue to champion this cause at future events such as the Norman, Wesley and Minor Street launch on 20th July 2013. This will remain a priority for as long as it is necessary for the District Team

6. OPTIONS/ ALTERNATIVES

6.1 The District Executive may be minded to suggest other ways of engaging with residents that may assist.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 This would depend very much on the event. So far the events have been run at minimal cost .

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 To follow

9. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMENTS

9.1 N/A

10. RISK ASSESSMENTS

10.1 N/A

11. IT IMPLICATIONS

11.1 N/A

12. PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 N/A

13. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

13.1 N/A

14. ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

14.1 N/A

15. COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 17 OF THE ACT) AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

15.1 N/A

16. FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE

16.1 N/A

17. KEY DECISION

17.1 N/A

18. BACKGROUND PAPERS

18.1 NONE

19. APPENDICES