



**Report of the Director of Neighbourhoods & Housing Department**

**Inner North West Area Committee**

**Date: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

**Subject: Inner Area Committee Well-being Budget Report**

**Electoral Wards Affected:**

**ALL**

**Specific Implications For:**

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

Council Function

Delegated Executive Function available for Call In

Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report seeks to provide Members with:-

- a) the current position on the Well-being Budget;
- b) details of revenue projects agreed in principle for 2006/07 and details of revenue projects requesting funding from the 2006/07 revenue budget, including the remaining 2005/06 under spend;
- c) Details of capital projects agreed in principle from the 2004-2007 Capital Budget and details of projects requesting funding from the 2004-07 capital budget.

**1.0 Background – Well-being 2005/06 Overview**

1.1 The 2005/06 Well-being revenue fund allocation was **£202,730**. The three year capital budget to the end of 2006/07 was **£394,196**.

1.2 Since the last meeting a number of savings have been identified from revenue projects approved in the past:-

Feasibility Fund – Cardigan Road (2004/05)	£5,000 under spend
Feasibility Fund – Kirkstall Road and Otley Road (2004/05)	£4,169 under spend
Roads, footpaths and signage across NW Leeds (2004/05)	£500 over spend

Royal Park Greenspace	£8,000 under spend <sup>1</sup>
LCC Streetscene CAST	£7,425 under spend
Group Development Worker	£13,334 under spend <sup>2</sup>

- 1.4 The revenue roll forward from 2004/05 is now **£99,621**. Therefore a total of **£302,351** revenue was available in 2005/06.
- 1.5 The total revenue allocated to date for 2005/06 is **£205,269**, as detailed in Appendix 1. Therefore **£97,082** is remaining to allocate.
- 1.6 The 2004-2007 capital budget is **£394,196**. The total capital funding agreed to date is **£217,909**. This means that there is **£176,287** Capital funding currently unallocated. Agreed capital projects are shown in appendix 2.

## **2.0 The 2006/07 Wellbeing Budget**

### **Revenue**

- 2.1 Appendix 3 shows both projects agreed in principle for 2006/07 and new project requests for funding for 2006/07
- 2.2 Please note that the budget figures shown in appendix 3 are based on the Area Committee receiving the same revenue budget as 2005/06, and ratification by Executive Board that the 2005/06 under spend can be carried forward to 2006/07. The Executive Board will meet in April to finalise Council Budgets for 2006/07.
- 2.3 As shown in Appendix 3, once funding for projects agreed in principle is deducted from the total budget for 2006/07, **£83,039** is remaining for new revenue projects.
- 2.4 The total revenue request from new projects for 2006/07 is **£285,187**.

### **Capital**

- 2.5 Appendix 4 shows both projects agreed in principle and new capital project funding requests for the remainder of the capital budget up to March 2007.
- 2.6 The total capital requests from new projects are **£349,100**. The remaining capital budget is **£176,287**
- 2.7 Members are therefore asked to priorities capital projects for the remainder of the 3 year Capital funding which must be spent by March 2007.
- 2.8 Reports on the revenue applications for Site Based Gardeners and Leeds Ahead are shown at Appendix 5 and 6.

<sup>1</sup> Parks and Countryside has requested that the £8,000 maintenance costings funding is carried forward to 2006/07 and 2007/08 as 2 years revenue funding was agreed for this project by the Area Committee in 2004/05.

<sup>2</sup> Please note that this was an initial costing and this project was not pursued by the Area Committee in 2005/06

### 3.0 Small Grants – To be completed

3.1 The following small grant applications have been received and supported:

Organisation	Project Name	Amount	Status
Headingley Network	Celebrate Headingley	£500	Agreed – payment processed
Highbury Residents Association	Highbury Mission Field	£200	Agreed – payment processed
Kirkstall Village Community Association	Kirkstall Festival	£500	Agreed – payment processed
Cardigan Triangle Community Association	Newsletter and Community Events	£500	Agreed – payment processed
Moor Grange Action Group	Moor Grange and West Park Community Fun Day	£489	Agreed – payment processed
Where Family Matters	Where Family Matters	£480	Agreed – payment processed
Caring Together in Little London & Woodhouse	Healthy Living Activity Groups for Older People	£500	Agreed – payment processed
Ash Road Allotments	Track Repairs	£500	Agreed – payment processed
Drummond & Churchwood residents Association	Publicity Costs	£250	Agreed – payment processed
Central Headingley Strategy Group	Strategy & Action Plan	£500	Agreed – payment processed
Cloth Cat Studios	Education Through Music Technology	£500	Agreed – payment processed
Leeds HMO Lobby	Headway Newsletter	£500	Agreed – payment currently being processed
Highbury Residents' Association	Celebrating the area	£500	Agreed – payment currently being processed
Hawksworth Wood Community Association	Hawkeye View – community magazine	£500	Agreed – payment currently being processed

3.2 The Small Grant budget for 2005/06 is £10,000. The current balance remaining is £3581.

3.3 There is one Small Grant application of £150 which is pending further information and will be assessed by the Area Management Team before circulating to Members.

### 4.0 Recommendations

4.1 Members of the Inner North-West Area Committee are requested to:

- Note the position of the Well-being Budget as set out in section 1, and
- Consider the Well-being Revenue budget position outlined in 2.1 – 2.4 and Appendix 3 and agree Well-being Revenue allocations
- Consider the Well-being Capital budget position outlined in 2.5 - 2.7 and Appendix 4 and agree Well-being capital allocations
- Note the Small Grant budget position as outlined in section 3.

**Inner North West Well-being Budget 2005-2006**  
**Projects agreed for 2005-06**

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
Planning Officer	LCC Development Department	£30,000 (* Please note that CIT funding ends 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2005. Area Committee funding will begin 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2005)	To fund a Community Planning Officer post for the North West Inner Area.  Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ React to current development activity and advise Members and community groups</li> <li>▪ Attend and advise a number of working groups on planning matters</li> <li>▪ Monitoring and enforcement</li> <li>▪ Ensure strategic planning issues are taken forward and important information is communicated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More informed local communities</li> <li>▪ Increased participation in planning process</li> <li>▪ Greater awareness within the Council of issues important to the community</li> </ul>
Funding Officer	Voluntary Action Leeds	£43,400	To fund a Funding Advice Officer post for the Inner North West Area.  Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support groups in identifying funders and completing applications</li> <li>▪ Arrange training sessions for groups</li> <li>▪ Produce and distribute a quarterly newsletter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop links with community and voluntary sector</li> <li>▪ Increase awareness of funding opportunities for groups</li> <li>▪ Community development</li> </ul>
Inner North West Skips Budget	North West Area Management Team / Onyx – skips supplier	£6,000	To establish a skips for community use fund. Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide skips for community groups to undertake clean-ups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved streetscene in local neighbourhoods</li> <li>▪ Increased community pride</li> </ul>
Inner North West Small Grants Fund	North West Area Management Team	£10,000	To establish a small grants fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support voluntary and community groups through grant aid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased range of community activity</li> <li>▪ Increased community</li> </ul>

## Appendix 1

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
			Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>participation</li> <li>▪ Increased community pride</li> </ul>
Royal Park Greenspace		£0 – Deferred to 2006/07 and 2007/08	<p>To provide revenue funding of £8,000 per year for two years to cover maintenance costs of the new facility.</p> <p>Project in development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New facility effectively maintained</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Better play facilities for children and young people</li> </ul>
Promoting Crime Reduction	West Yorkshire Police	£1,100	<p>To promote crime reduction initiatives across the Inner Area.</p> <p>Project in development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Purchase 25 metal frames to display crime prevention messages at various locations in the Apollo area (NOTE: Subject to ward members agreeing locations of frames).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction in recorded crime and fear of crime</li> </ul>
Festive Lights for Hyde Park	Leeds Lights	£11,238	<p>To fund a further 4 sessions of lights for Burley Road. Funding will cover the costs of hiring and putting up the lights for 4 sessions and also includes electricity costs.</p> <p>Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide festive lights at 4 further sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved streetscape and environment</li> <li>▪ Increased Community Pride.</li> <li>▪ Increased awareness of different cultures/religions</li> </ul>
Woodsley Road Community Centre Manager	Voluntary Action Leeds	£20,397	<p>To fund a part time Community Centre Manager at Woodsley Road Community Centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community Centre worker in post</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased community use at the centre</li> </ul>

## Appendix 1

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
			Project started and ongoing for 2005-06		
Study Support Sessions	LCC Youth Service	£2,000	The continuation of the study support project funded in 04/05.  Project continuing into 2005-06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Minimum of 20 Young People attend the Study Support Sessions</li> <li>▪ 10 Young People regularly attend at least once a week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase in self esteem, build confidence in the young people attending the study support sessions.</li> <li>▪ More positive approach to education</li> </ul>
Up Your Street Project	City & Regional Office of University of Leeds / Community Action at Leeds Met	£3,500	Joint funded project (with Leeds University and Leeds Met University). The project has an environmental/streetscene focus and works with student volunteers on a variety of projects.  Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establish a recycling project</li> <li>▪ Respond to ongoing issues of litter/graffiti</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve the local environment/streetscape</li> <li>▪ Encourage recycling</li> <li>▪ Bring students and local residents together</li> </ul>
Hyde Park Unity Day	Hyde Park Unity Day	£5,000	To help fund the Annual Hyde Park unity Day, held in Woodhouse Moor.  Project completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Show-case art/dance music event on Woodhouse Moor – a celebration of ongoing work in the area</li> <li>▪ Various workshops in other local parks and community centres</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote a positive image of the area</li> <li>▪ Encourage and support local arts</li> <li>▪ Improve links between different cultures and between students and residents</li> </ul>

## Appendix 1

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
Extension of Older Active People Project	Older Active People	£4,000	Extend Older Active People into the North Headingley Area.  Project completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Extension of the work of the project into the North Headingley area</li> <li>▪ Providing a range of preventative health activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction in social isolation</li> <li>▪ An increase in the use of older people's skills and experience</li> </ul>
Headingley development Trust	Headingley Network	£2,500	To prepare a business plan for the Headingley Development Trust, which will comprise of Local Community Associations, residents and investors. Funding will pay for a consultant to assist in the preparation of the Business Plan. The first phase of the Plan is to attract funds for the purchase of Headingley Community Annex. The overall aim of the Trust is to provide community resources, business and group space that support a range of community activity during the day and evenings.  Project in development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Business plan prepared for the acquisition of the Headingley Annex</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Possible acquisition of Headingley Annex</li> </ul>
Community Compost	Leeds Organic Growers	£0 ( see capital Bid)	Leeds Organic Growers will run a green garden Kerbside collection and composting service	Generate 4 jobs and 10 volunteer placements. Produce 1350 tonnes of compost/soil per year,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Job creation</li> <li>▪ Improved environment</li> <li>▪ Creation of a</li> </ul>

## Appendix 1

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
			targeting 40,000 households across Inner North West Leeds.  Project in development.	helping to make the project a self sustaining enterprise after 3 years.	sustainable community enterprise
Rosebank Millennium Trust	Rosebank Millennium Trust	£4,000	To provide a worker in post for approximately one day per week and enable the project to develop links with volunteers at the Universities. The project meets Area Delivery Plan priorities of improving community safety for local people and improving existing parks and greenspace provision.  Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Organise 6 community clean ups</li> <li>▪ Develop a business plan and funding strategy</li> <li>▪ Submit application to Big Lottery Fund</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improvement/ maintenance to the local environment</li> <li>▪ Helping to reduce drug use in the area, improving community safety</li> </ul>
Hawksworth Wood Development Worker	Hawksworth Wood Community Association	£14,184	To bridge the current funding gap and allow the current development worker post to continue. Further funding applications will be submitted to funders such as Big Lottery Fund, to allow the project to continue after 05-06. The project helps to deliver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop a business plan and funding strategy</li> <li>▪ Submit funding applications</li> <li>▪ Involvement in 4 community festivals</li> <li>▪ Provide trustee training sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved community cohesion in Hawksworth Wood</li> <li>▪ Improved resident involvement in the development of projects and regeneration plans for the area</li> <li>▪ Improved sustainability of the Community/Voluntary network in</li> </ul>



## Appendix 1

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
			regeneration activity in Hawksworth Wood, one of the priority areas identified in the Area Delivery Plan.  Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.		Hawksworth Wood
Breakers Unify Development Project	Breakers Unify	£3,000	The project provides outreach youth work in the area. It meets the Children & Young People and Community Safety objectives in the Area Delivery Plan.  Project due to start in October 2005.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop business and funding strategy</li> <li>▪ Provide 8 break dancing sessions</li> <li>▪ Establish a youth project to tackle graffiti in partnership with Inner North West Area Graffiti Task Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developed youth based activity in the area</li> <li>▪ Diversionary youth work</li> </ul>
Calling Out	Community Action for Little London and Servias (CALLS)	£20,000	To continue the Development Worker post to December 2005. Work to secure future funding is being undertaken. The project helps to deliver regeneration activity in Little London, which is one of the priority regeneration areas in the Area Delivery Plan.  Project started and ongoing for 2005-06.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop business plan and funding strategy</li> <li>▪ Carry out 3 community events</li> <li>▪ Set up 2 sustainable volunteer placements with CALLS</li> <li>▪ Carry out 2 community clean ups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved community cohesion in Little London</li> <li>▪ Improved resident involvement in the development of projects and regeneration plans for the area</li> <li>▪ Improved sustainability of the community/voluntary network in Little London</li> </ul>
Streetscene Services Area Delivery Proposals	LCC City Services	£1,545	This project relates to the Environmental Task Force project allocation		

## Appendix 1

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
			<p>(originally allocated £15,000 for this financial year). This project will provide three men and a van for Inner North West Leeds. Details of how this project will work in operation is yet to be finalised.</p> <p>Project in development.</p>		
<p>Capacity Building Worker</p> <p>- This project did not happen in 2005/06 and therefore has no cost implications. This project could still take place in 2006/07 depending on Area Committee priorities for funding.</p>	<p>Voluntary Action Leeds</p>	<p>£0</p>	<p>Project in development stages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To assist 100 organisations by helping them to establish structure, constitution and policies.</li> <li>▪ To assist groups to communicate more effectively at all levels and engage themselves in the community economic development process.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The worker will support local voluntary and community organisations in developing their capacity to deliver local project solutions to neighbourhood problems.</li> <li>▪ The worker will support the Funding Officer post in bringing resources to groups in pursuit of sustainable development plans for community and voluntary organisations.</li> </ul>
<p>Inner North West Graffiti Project</p>	<p>Breakers Unify/Up Your Street</p>	<p>£10,575</p>	<p>The project will develop strategies to tackle graffiti vandalism through engaging</p>	<p>To be agreed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduction in graffiti vandalism across the area</li> </ul>

## Appendix 1

Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 05/06	Description and Progress	Outputs	Outcomes
			young people through positive alternatives.  Project in development.		
* Supporting the Elderly People (STEP) Project, West Park, Kirkstall Area	STEP	£7730	The project will support the development of the STEP scheme in the West Park/ Kirkstall area. This scheme will be similar to OPAL (LS16), Horsforth Live at Home Scheme (LS18), HOPS(LS5), OAP (LS6) and MENA (LS6)  Project in development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No. of organisations assisted with capacity building</li> <li>▪ Co-ordinator job created</li> <li>▪ Office established</li> <li>▪ Number of persons made aware distraction burglary and advised how to avoid this.</li> </ul>	Supporting Older People scheme established.
Headingley DPPO	LCC Community Safety/ Area Management	£1,500	This project will pay for the advertising costs associated with Headingley DDPO	DDPO scheme implemented	Reduces anti social behaviour caused by on the street drinking in Headingley
4 Police Mountain Bikes	West Yorkshire Police	£3,600	This project will provide police mountain bikes to allow high visibility policing and allow police to have a wider patrol area.		
		<b>Revenue Cost 05/06</b>			
	<b>SUB TOTAL 1 Projects agreed for 05/06 and 06/07</b>	<b>£205,269</b>			

**TOTALS SUMMARY:**

Revenue Budget Allocation 2005-06	£202,730
Roll Forward	£99,621
<b>Total Budget available 2005-06</b>	<b>£302,351</b>
Total Revenue 2005-06 already agreed	£205,269
<b>Revenue 2005-06 remaining</b>	<b>£97,082</b>

**Inner North West Well-being Budget  
Capital Programme 2004-2007**

**Projects agreed by Area Committee**

Project	Delivery Organisation	05/06 Cost	Description and progress	Outputs	Outcomes
Woodhouse Moor Bowls Pavilion	LCC Parks & Countryside	£24,200	To refurbish bowls pavilion at Woodhouse Moor Bowls Club Project in development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To replace the bowls pavilion building with a suitable permanent structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased use of the Bowling Green</li> <li>▪ Increased participation</li> </ul>
Community Re>Paint Project	Seagulls Re-Use Limited	£4509	Project in final development stage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Purchase a van to support the Community Re&gt;Paint project.</li> <li>▪ Collect left-over paint from households and redistribute to community groups, charities and low income households.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Diverting materials from landfill</li> <li>▪ Improve environmental awareness</li> <li>▪ Provide an affordable/free source of paint</li> </ul>
Refurbishment of Hawksworth Wood Community Shop	Hawksworth Wood Community Association	£3,850	Project started.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Refurbish the community charity shop, which is currently in a poor state of repair.</li> <li>▪ Project is match-funded by Community Building Capital grants scheme. Total project costs are £6, 000.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve use of the facility</li> <li>▪ Community pride</li> </ul>
Mushroom Bollards for Cragside Fields	LCC Parks & Countryside	£5,000	Work to be carried out in September 2005.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supply and fit mushroom bollards to Cragside Fields</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prevent cars from driving onto the fields</li> <li>▪ Reduction in anti social behaviour</li> <li>▪ Make the fields safer</li> </ul>
Creation of new space in a community building (ABLE)	Burley Lodge Centre	£100,000 (£50,000 05/06, £50,000 06/07)	Opening up of attic space for office and social community enterprise.  Project in development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased support to social community enterprise sector</li> <li>▪ Provide 7 managed work spaces , with IT equipment available at low rent to start up social enterprises.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community enterprise development and support</li> <li>▪ Developing the social capacity of local groups.</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2

Project	Delivery Organisation	05/06 Cost	Description and progress	Outputs	Outcomes
Community Compost*	Leeds Organic Growers	£11,666	Leeds Organic Growers will run a green garden Kerbside collection and composting service targeting 40,000 households across Inner North West Leeds Capital funding used to purchase machinery for the project. Revenue funding also required for 2006/07 and 2007/08 (see 2.1)  Project in development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Generate 4 jobs and 10 volunteer placements.</li> <li>▪ Produce 1350 tonnes of compost/soil per year, helping to make the project a self sustaining enterprise after 3 years.</li> </ul>	Job creation Improved environment Creation of a sustainable community enterprise
Rosebank Millennium Green	Rosebank Millennium Green	£1,344	The project will simplify the Millennium Green site, making the site easier to maintain in future years, therefore contributing to the sustainability. This project is linked to the Rosebank revenue project that the Area Committee have already funded. These works are needed for the long term management and sustainability of the site. Project to be completed Autumn 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Removal of hard to maintain shrub beds (x8)</li> <li>▪ New paving around seating area</li> <li>▪ Site simplification work completed</li> </ul>	Long term maintenance of the site. This work will reduce the maintenance costs, making it easier and more viable for RMGT maintain the site for the future. This project links to the NW Inner ADP by making improvements to the local environment, maintaining open green spaces in the area.
≡ STEP Older People's Network	STEP	£5340 (Revenue 05/06 £7730, 06/07 £3,300)	The project will support the development of the STEP scheme in the West Park/ Kirkstall area. This scheme will be similar to OPAL (LS16), Horsforth Live at Home Scheme (LS18), HOPS(LS5), OAP (LS6) and MENA (LS6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No. of organisations assisted with capacity building</li> <li>▪ Co-ordinator job created</li> <li>▪ Office established</li> <li>▪ No of people advised of distraction Burglary techniques</li> </ul>	Supporting Older People scheme established
Archery's Alleygating scheme	Leeds Community Safety	£5,000	This project will provide alley gating for three streets in the Archerys. This is a multi agency project and the need for alley gates has been		

## Appendix 2

Project	Delivery Organisation	05/06 Cost	Description and progress	Outputs	Outcomes
			identified by the youth service, West Yorkshire Police, Anti Social Behaviour Unit and RSLs. This project has been to The <b>Community Safety Sub Group</b> and is supported by the Group		
Additional Litter bins	LCC City Services	£7,000	This fund will provide additional litter bins in strategic locations around Inner North West Leeds		
CCTV	Leeds Watch	£50,000	An analysis of CCTV has been carried out by the <b>Community Safety Sub Group</b> . The Group has decided that it would be beneficial for Inner North West Leeds to have an additional 2 cameras covering the Hyde Park Area. The Police are part of the sub group and support these proposals. The cameras would be placed outside the halo night club by the University and on the Corner of Woodhouse Moor looking 4 ways down Hyde Park Road, Moorland road and Royal park Road.		
<b>TOTAL AGREED</b>		<b>£217,909</b>			

### Capital Summary

Capital Budget Allocation	£394,196
Total Capital projects agreed	£217,909
<b>Total Capital Remaining</b>	<b>£176,287</b>





## Inner North West Well-being Revenue Budget 2006-07

### Projects Agreed in principle for 2006/07

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
PD1	Planning Officer	LCC Development Department	£40,000 (agreed in principle)		To fund a Community Planning Officer post for the North West Inner Area.
PW1	Funding Officer	Voluntary Action Leeds	£43,400 (agreed in principle)		To fund a Funding Advice Officer post for the Inner North West Area.
S3	Inner North West Skips Budget	North West Area Management Team / Onyx – skips supplier	£6,000 (agreed in principle)	£6,000	To establish a skips for community use fund.
PW1	Inner North West Small Grants Fund	North West Area Management Team	£5,000 (ongoing fund)	£5,000	To establish a small grants fund.
PG1	Royal Park Greenspace	LCC Parks & Countryside	£8,000 (agreed in principle)	£8,000	To provide revenue funding of £8,000 per year for two years to cover maintenance costs of the new facility.
S2	Streetscene Services Area Delivery Proposals	LCC City Services	£2,720 (agreed in principle)		The project contributes to the localised CAST Team.
CA1	Woodsley Road Community Centre Manager	Voluntary Action Leeds	£21,851 (agreed in principle)		To fund a part time Community Centre Manager at Woodsley Road Community Centre.
	Supporting the Elderly People (STEP) Project, West Park, Kirkstall Area	STEP	£3,300 (agreed in principle)		The project will support the development of the STEP scheme in the West Park/ Kirkstall area. This scheme will be similar to OPAL Horsforth Live at Home Scheme, HOPS, OAP and MENA
S5	Community Compost	Leeds Organic Growers	£20,000 (agreed in Principle)		Leeds Organic Growers will run a green garden Kerbside collection and composting service targeting 40,000 households across Inner North West Leeds.

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
	Up Your Street Project	City & Regional Office of University of Leeds / Community Action at Leeds Met	£3,500 (agreed in principle)		Joint funded project (with Leeds University and Leeds Met University). The project has an environmental/streetscene focus and works with student volunteers on a variety of projects.
CS3	Additional Policing – DPPO	West Yorkshire Police	£7,500		To provide additional policing in the DPPO area to help with the enforcement of the order
CS4	CCTV	Leeds Community Safety/ Leeds Watch	£10,000		To provide revenue funding for 2 additional CCTV cameras located in the Hyde Park & Woodhouse.
CYP1	Mobile Youth Bus	Youth Service	£6,500		To hire a youth bus on a 12 month trial period for North West Leeds. This bus will deliver youth outreach work in hard to reach areas.
R1	Little London Neighbourhood Management and Inner North West Additional Policing	NW Area Management/ West Yorkshire Police	£39,000 (24,000 additional policing, £15,000 Neighbourhood Management)		This fund will be used to provide extra policing resources throughout the Inner north West Area in 2006/07. The funding will also be used to contribute resources to Little London neighbourhood Management and match fund NRF/ SSCF funding.
		<b>Total Agreed in principle</b>	<b>£216,771</b>	<b>£19,000</b>	

**Sub Total**

Budget for 2006/07	£202,730
2005/06 Carry Forward	£97,080
	£299,810
Projects agreed in principle	£216,771
Remaining funding	<b>£83,039</b>

## Projects for Consideration 2006/07 – Not yet agreed

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
CS6	Pro active Burglary reduction – anti climb paint	West Yorkshire Police/ CASAC	£3,000		This project will provide anti climb paint for 100 properties in burglary hotspots. This paint has been piloted in other areas of the UK and it has proved very effective. This project has been to the <b>Community Safety Sub Group</b> and has been supported.
	Additional Policing – Graffiti operations	West Yorkshire Police	£10,000		This project will provide 20 nights of graffiti action in North West Leeds. This project will provide overnight policing to combat graffiti by catching graffiti artists. This project can be linked to streetscene graffiti operations. This project has been to the <b>Community Safety Sub Group</b> and is supported by this group.
	Trading Standards Project	West Yorkshire Trading Standards	£3,000		This is a repeat of the Trading standards project delivered in 2004/05. The results of this project lead to 40 test purchases throughout Inner North West Leeds and 7 offences. This project has been discussed at the <b>Community Safety Sub Group</b> .
	Additional Neighbourhood Wardens	West Yorkshire Police	£26,000		Funding additional Neighbourhood Wardens was discussed as a potential project by the <b>Community Safety Sub group</b> .
	Additional PCSO	West Yorkshire Police	£25,000 (Match funded by WYP)		Funding for additional PCSOs was discussed as a potential project by the <b>Community Safety Sub Group</b> .
CYP3	D:SIDE – Drugs: Support, Information, Drug Education	D:Side (UK programme of Children in Crisis)	£1,000		This project is supported by the <b>Children and Young people Sub Group</b> . This project will provide a drug and health education programme for young people in schools.
S4	Provision of additional litter bins	Streetscene	£ TBC		The provision of additional Litter bins at strategic locations in Inner North West Leeds was discussed at the <b>Streetscene Sub Group</b> . A list of additional sites was provided by members and further analysis needs to take place. Additional bins cost £350 capital and have a revenue implication which is TBC
PW2	Hyde Park Unity	Hyde Park Unity	£5,000		To help fund the Annual Hyde Park unity Day, held in

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
	Day	Day			Woodhouse Moor.
	Extension of Older Active People Project	Older Active People	£4,000	£4,000 (and a further £4,000 for 2008/09)	Expand the work carried out in North Headingley and allow older people living in the area to access a range of services and activities that OAP provides
	Festive Lights for Hyde Park	Leeds Lights	£11,238		To fund a further 4 sessions of lights for Burley Road. Funding will cover the costs of hiring and putting up the lights for 4 sessions and also includes electricity costs.
R3	Shopping area Streetscape and Highways improvement and feasibility fund	Highways/ Area management	£5,000	£5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This fund would be used towards the development of schemes to improve the streetscape of Inner North West Leeds. The fund would be used towards feasibility studies of schemes and contribute to the delivery of specific elements of schemes. Currently work on the development of schemes would be limited due to the lack of funding for feasibility and design, unless linked to specific LCC schemes such as the Town &amp; District centres scheme which focuses on Headingley Town Centre.</li> <li>• Projects that could be initially funded include Woodsley Road shopping Area Feasibility, Headingley centre Design Guide</li> </ul>
PD 5	Design Guide/ Design Statement Feasibility Fund	Area Management/ Development Department	£5,000	£5,000	This fund would be used towards the development of design statements and design guides for Inner North West Leeds. This project would help to manage the appearance of the area in line with community aspirations and impressions of an area. Design Guides/ Statements would be developed with Development Department for adoption.
	Allotment Assistance fund	Area Management/ Allotment Association/ Parks & Countryside	£3,000		This fund would be used to improve security, access and the appearance of allotments in North West Leeds. This fund would be matched by Parks & Countryside funding.
	Capacity Building Worker	Voluntary Action Leeds	£6,000 (agreed but		This worker will help develop local community and voluntary sector organisations outside the Hyde Park & Woodhouse

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
			not spent 2005/06)		Objective 2 area.
	Park Signposting and information panels	Parks & Countryside	£5,000		This fund would be a contribution towards park signage and information panels. This project will be delivered in partnership with Parks & Countryside.
	Part time Planning Enforcement Officer	LCC Development Department	£13,150		This project would provide a part time Planning Enforcement Officer for Inner North West Leeds to enforce to Let Board regulations and additional planning enforcement issues.
PG1	Woodhouse Ridge Action Group – Woodhouse Ridge Improvements	Woodhouse Ridge Action Group	£17,900		This project will improve access and security at Woodhouse Ridge with the aim of increasing use of the public greenspace. The project will also make improvements to the appearance of the area.
	Hyde Park Picture House	Hyde Park Picture House	£7,500		Project to support the running and development of this facility.
	Hawksworth Older People's Project	Hawksworth Older People's Project	£5,000		HOPS are looking to take over the building next to the YMCA centre in Hawksworth Wood. The funding will be used to pay for the running costs for the building for a year. In future years HOPs will look to develop larger bids to other funding bodies. The centre will be used for lunch clubs, adult classes and support sessions. This bid is in partnership with Hawksworth Wood YMCA.
	Irish Music Project	Irish Music Project, Leeds	£8,000		This funding is requested to be used towards 'The gathering 2006' - A celebration of Traditional Irish Music and Arts festival. The gathering 2006 will include a range of events and performances, showcasing local talent and creativity.
	Scarman Trust – Can do Investment Fund	Scarman Trust	£5,000		The CDIF is very much a local fund providing the community with resources to carry out projects that makes a huge difference within the community. The CDIF operates within the inner North West area of Leeds and concentrates on regenerating specific areas by helping local people realise the potential that they have for positive change by providing grants of up to £500 to carry out community projects. The CDIF has successfully negotiated £5,000 investment from Leeds Federated Housing Association into the CDIF and is now proposing £5,000 from the Well-being Fund as apposed to the

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
					£10,000 proposed previously.
	Libraries Project	LCC Learning & Leisure	£1,666		Weekends of Children events at libraries across Inner North West Leeds. Libraries have a central role in their local community and provide an early introduction to the wider world for many children from their earliest years. They also provide an early introduction to the world of books, the spoken and written word and are thus instrumental in giving children an enjoyable view of books and reading.
	Contingency fund	Area Committee	£20,000		This fund will be used top pay for further projects throughout 2006/07. This would mean that the Area Committee would be able to fund projects throughout the year.
	Proof of Age	Trading Standards	£12,117		This project will expand the use of Proof of Age in Inner North West Leeds, working with schools and retailers/ pubs, and clubs. Uniform delivery throughout the City is paramount to the success of the Proof of Age Partnership, which is why participation from ALL area committees is essential. Evidence suggests that when youngsters establish that particular areas or retailers are not participating in the initiative, they often migrate to those areas from districts which ARE involved, thereby ensuring they continue to buy these products. The knock-on effects of antisocial behaviour are well documented.
PG1	Site Based Gardeners	Parks & Countryside	£35,600	£35,600	There are 6 parks in Inner North West Leeds, 4 of which already have dedicated site based gardeners (Burley Park, Lovell Park, The Hollies, and Woodhouse Moor). This project proposes that the remaining 2 Parks in North West Leeds (Becketts park & Woodhouse Ridge) be provided with site based gardeners. Please note that this is a separate scheme to the Woodhouse Ridge scheme listed above.
	About Leeds	Chief Executive's Department	£2,500		This funding will provide a contribution towards the About Leeds newspaper. This is a quarterly newspaper, and the Area Committee will receive a page of space within the paper for local stories/ issues.

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
	Mini Breeze	Youth Service	£6,000		This project is based on the successful 'Mini-Breeze' events held in the summer of 2005. This funding would be used to fund one mini breeze event at a location in Inner North West Leeds. It is estimated that between 150-300 children and young people will attend this event.
	Leeds Ahead		£6,000	£6,000	<p>Leeds Ahead brokers support from the business community to a very wide range of local regeneration projects. It reports to the Narrowing the Gap Executive of Leeds Initiative and directly supports the work of the district partnerships and area action plans. It aims to improve outcomes for communities which fall within the 20% most disadvantaged Super Output Areas by integrating the business community far more closely into the delivery of local regeneration. This includes increasing business involvement at strategic level (e.g. on strategic boards and sub-groups) as well as practical involvement in projects on the ground.</p> <p>This would contribute towards the cost of a dedicated business broker, which will be shared between North West and West. If additional funding is received from other funders (e.g. NRF, Yorkshire Forward, ERDF) it may be possible to have a worker per wedge. It is important to note that we will not attract the right candidates if a one year contract is all that is on offer.</p>
	REEMAP After School Programme	REEMAP (Raising Educational Ethnic Minority Achievement Partnership)	£9,716		<p>The Making A Difference programme aims to attract nearly 210 students in the North West Wedge. This programme represents the logical expansion of existing after-school provision. The sessions are two-hours long and will be available for at least 30 weeks during the academic cycle. The funding will extend to the start of the new academic year and will hopefully continue once funding is secured from the new financial year April 07.</p> <p>The total cost of this programme is £22,408. REEMAP is seeking a grant-aid of up to <b>£9,716</b> to supplement the existing funding. This grant-aid will contribute to the following:</p>

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Revenue cost 06/07	Revenue costs 07/08	Description and Progress
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tutor costs</li> <li>▪ Parent/Carer Involvement Workshops</li> <li>▪ Publicity</li> </ul> <p>This project was discussed at the <b>Children &amp; Young people's Sub Group</b> and it was felt that this project would need to link into existing study support provision by the Youth Service. The Youth Service and REEMAP plan to meet to discuss these issues.</p>
	Project Educate	West Yorkshire Police	£4,800		<p>Funding will pay for the lease of a police vehicle for one year, which will be available 7 days a week for use as a means of promoting various police and partner initiatives across the area. The aim of the project is to provide a continuous promotional advice and awareness service to local communities.</p> <p>This service is currently available to the area 1 day per week but is dependent upon demand from other areas/initiatives. This funding would guarantee provision for the area 7 days a week.</p>
CYP3	Young People's involvement and Participation Project	Youth Point/ LCC Youth Service	£18,000		<p>The project would develop a Youth Council for the area, developing new structures and encouraging young people to participate in service planning and consultation. A senior youth worker would be recruited to recruit and support young people, develop and deliver training for young people and liaise with agencies to increase opportunities for young people to have a voice and be heard. This project is supported by the Inner North West Youth Network (INWYN) and the Area Committee Children and Young People sub Group.</p>
		<b>SUB TOTAL 1</b>	<b>£285,187</b>	<b>£55,600</b>	



**TOTALS SUMMARY:**

Revenue Budget Allocation 2006/07	£202,730
Roll Forward	£97,080
<b>Total Budget available 2006-07</b>	<b>£299,810</b>
Total Revenue 2006-07 already agreed	£216,771
Revenue 2006-07 remaining	£83,039
Additional Revenue requested 2006-07	£285,187
<b>Revenue 2006 -07 balance if all requests agreed</b>	<b>-£202,148</b>

## Inner North West Well-being Budget Capital Programme 2004-2007

### Projects for Consideration

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Cost	Description and progress
<b>Community Safety Sub Group Projects</b>				
CS6	Burglary Reduction – Alley Gating fund	Leeds Community safety	£15,000	<p>This pot of funding would provide the Inner North West Area Committee with an opportunity to leaver in £15,000 match funding towards Alley gating schemes in North West Leeds. Schemes for 2006/07 would be identified by partners and funding would be used to reduce anti social behaviour and crime levels by targeting specific streets/ areas.</p> <p>This project has been to the <b>Community Safety Sub Group</b> and is supported.</p>
<b>Children &amp; Young People Sub Group Projects</b>				
CYP2	Educational facility for children – Burley Early Years Centre	Learning & Leisure/ Sure Start	£30,000	<p>Funding would be used towards the provision of a new facility for childcare provision at the site of the Early Years Centre in Burley</p> <p>This project was agreed in principle, pending further information in 2004/05</p>
<b>Streetscene Sub Group Projects</b>				
S6	Improvements to Grass Verges and Footpath and highway improvements	Highways/ Parks & Countryside	£20,000	<p>A fund for grass verge improvements in areas where there are issues with people parking on grass verges, having a negative impact on the streetscape of the area. This project is supported by the <b>Streetscene Sub Group</b>.</p> <p>This fund will also allow the Area Committee to make contributions to highway and footpath improvements in the area. A similar fund was established in the 2004/05 Area Committee Budget. One current proposal is to fund improvements to the footpath from the Queenswoods to Headingley Rail Station to a sum of £4,000</p>

## APPENDIX 4

ADP Code	Project	Delivery Organisation	Cost	Description and progress
<b>Other Projects</b>				
R3	Headingley Environmental Improvements		£50,000	This funding would be used to match fund improvements made to Headingley Town Centre through the Town & District Centres Scheme
	Little Woodhouse Play Area	Parks & Countryside	£60,000	No site is currently available for this project, although a number of possible sites have been identified.
	Al-Haqq Supplementary School	Al-Haqq Supplementary School	£30,000	To develop the facility as a supplementary school for young people in the locality
CYP2	Beckett Park Play Area	LCC Parks & Countryside	Approx £50,000	To replace/refurbish the existing play area This project was agreed in principle, pending further information in 2004/05 Total cost £108,000 – awaiting release of 106 money from Filter Beds scheme and confirmation of how much is available.
CYP2	Little London Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)	LCC Leisure Services	£20,000	This is a request to the Area Committee to contribute £20,000 to a £160,000 scheme. The scheme will provide a new sport facility in the Little London Area. The new facility will engage young people to come together to play sports such as football, basketball and kwik cricket in a safe environment which will be available all year round with the provision of floodlighting. This facility will be on Blackman Lane. Green Leeds have already agreed £70,000 towards this scheme.
PG1	Woodhouse Ridge Action Group – Woodhouse Ridge Improvements	Woodhouse Ridge Action Group	£9,100	This project will improve access and security at Woodhouse Ridge with the aim of increasing use of the public greenspace. The project will also make improvements to the appearance of the area.
R4	Kirkstall Valley Park		£30,000	Contribution towards the overall cost of establishing a Public Park in the Kirkstall Valley area for the benefit of local inhabitants and the public in general.
	Little London Walking Route project	Primary Care Trust	£10,000	Contribution towards the development of a walking and cycling route in Little London

**APPENDIX 4**

<b>ADP Code</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Description and progress</b>
	Artlink – Stage D Feasibility/ Design costs	Artlink	£25,000	Funding is required for stage D design costs and planning application costing for the development of the Artlink facility on Belle Vue Road. This facility provides arts and cultural activities in the local community. The building needs improved access and modernising. If Stage D design is completed, the project will be able to bid for Objective 2 funding for the development of the facility. Without Stage D costings the project cannot progress.
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£349,100</b>	

**Capital Budget Summary 2004-2007**

<b>TOTAL Capital Budget for 3 years (04/05, 05/06, 06/07)</b>	<b>£394,196</b>
<b>Capital Projects Agreed</b>	<b>£217,909</b>
<b>New Potential Capital Projects</b>	<b>£359,100</b>
<b>TOTAL Capital Projects</b>	<b>£577,009</b>
<b>Capital Balance if all projects are agreed</b>	<b>- £182,813</b>





Agenda Item:

Originator: Denise Preston

Tel: 0113 247 8395

## Report of the Chief Recreation Officer

### Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2006

### Subject: Site Based Gardeners in Community Parks

#### Electoral Wards Affected:

Hyde Park & Woodhouse  
Weetwood

#### Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

Council  
Function

Delegated Executive  
Function available  
for Call In

Delegated Executive  
Function not available for  
Call In Details set out in the  
report

## Executive Summary

To consider a request for £35,600 annual revenue funding to support the provision of site based gardeners in Community Parks within North West Inner Area.

### 1. Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to set out the benefits and revenue costs of the provision of site based gardeners in Community Parks.

### 2. Background Information

- 2.1. There are 7 major parks in Leeds, namely:- Otley Chevin Country Park, Kirkstall Abbey Estate, Middleton Park, Golden Acre Park, Roundhay Park, Temple Newsam Estate and Lotherton Hall Estate. In addition, there are 75 community parks, 94 recreation grounds and 383 acres of local green space. A further 156 nature conservation sites and around 170 woodlands and plantations are also managed by the service.
- 2.2. The Green Flag Award scheme provides for a national standard for parks and green spaces across England and Wales. The award is managed by The Civic Trust on behalf of CABI Space, and it has backing in England from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, English Heritage, The Countryside Agency and English Nature. In

## Appendix 5

2005 the Parks and Countryside service entered four parks: Golden Acre Park, Pudsey Park, Lotherton Hall Estate and Temple Newsam Estate for the award, all of which are now confirmed as successfully achieving the award.

- 2.3. Around 30 trained staff within Parks and Countryside judged 46 sites against the Green Flag field assessment criteria during the summer of 2004. Judging sheets have been completed for each site assessed outlining strengths and recommendations as well as a score for each relevant criteria.
- 2.4. This work is the basis for a new performance indicator, namely 'the percentage of annual sites assessed that meet the field based assessment for the Green Flag standard.' The target for 2004/2005 was 10%.
- 2.5. An analysis of the results shows that the major City and Country Parks are generally of a high standard. There is however a significant gap between the average overall score for City/Countryside Parks and the score for Community Parks which is lower. By considering the individual criteria more closely the results show that the key areas of weakness for Community Parks are:-
  - Signage
  - The provision of appropriate interpretation and educational information
  - Infrastructure maintenance particularly fencing and paths
  - Horticultural features
  - Site based gardeners
- 2.6. The £500,000 funding awarded in 2005/06 for Phase 1 to improve 12 Community Parks has been a significant step forward in beginning to address some of these issues. The challenge for the service is to ensure that gardeners are based in Community Parks in order to sustain the improvements being made. The service currently has 25 Community Parks with permanent site based gardening staff.

### 3. Main Issues

- 3.1. Research by CABA (Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment) Space, a central government body responsible for the strategic improvement of urban greenspace, has highlighted that by 1996 only a third of parks had dedicated park staff with 90% of local authorities experiencing vandalism in their Parks. Furthermore CABA Space linked the £1.3billion cumulative cut in revenue expenditure in Parks from 1981 to 2001 with the downward spiral towards greater vandalism, litter, neglect and visitor decline in use of our Parks<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.2. A telephone survey conducted on behalf of the Department of Transport, Local Government and Regions revealed that 67% of women, 57% of 12-15 year olds, 50% of 16-19 year olds, 79% of 56-65 year olds, 63% of 76 year olds and 77% of disabled respondents felt that the presence of staff on site would make them feel safer visiting their particular greenspace<sup>2</sup>.
- 3.3. With regard to people who rarely visit or use the Parks a national survey conducted for CABA Space ascertained 68% alienated by dog fouling, 57% by vandalism and

---

<sup>1</sup> Parks need Parkforce, CABA Space 2005

<sup>2</sup> Improving Urban Parks, Play Areas and Open spaces, The Department of Transport, Local Government and Regions 2002

graffiti and 44% by poor maintenance<sup>3</sup>. Presence of on site gardeners has the potential to address these problems.

- 3.4. CABE Space is aware that the best parks are being developed through the efforts of a skilled modern team which includes on site park gardeners who are often multi-skilled and highly trained. In addition it is quite likely that the gardener will also act as a point of liaison with the local community, effect policing duties, deal with other routine park maintenance such as litter collection, electric scooter bookings and unlocking of park gates.
- 3.5. Our current site based gardeners engage with the public rather than just carrying out horticultural and maintenance tasks and thereby play a part in helping to enhance people's enjoyment of their Parks and greenspaces. Invariably site-based park gardeners associate better with their own sites of responsibility and attain a wealth of knowledge pertinent to the site. The latter asset is valuable in gaining a rapport with the public and dealing with site problems.
- 3.6. By reintroducing gardeners CABE Space research has shown additional benefits that include a reduction in cultural and racial tensions, diminution in anti-social behaviour and increased community involvement in the Park<sup>4</sup>. Dedicated park gardeners create a virtuous circle of improvement since their presence leads to better maintained parks which are perceived as safe and are better used and in turn this helps to combat public fears and encourages even more people to use their Park.
- 3.7. Reinstating park gardeners will help Leeds to contribute to PSA (Public Service Agreement) objectives that include crime reduction, reducing public fear of crime, increasing voluntary community engagement and the delivery of cleaner, safer and greener public spaces. Improvements in the above targets for our Parks will show that Leeds City Council takes pride in its work and cares for local residents. This will have a knock on effect, since an amelioration in the 'street scene and the public realm' as well as 'staff responsiveness and accessibility' were identified by MORI<sup>5</sup> as a key to improving the reputation of a local council.

#### 4. **Implications For Council Policy And Governance**

- 4.1. There are no implications for Council Policy and Governance.

#### 5. **Legal And Resource Implications**

- 5.1. The cost for employing a Craft Gardener is £17,800 including National Insurance, Superannuation and Personal Protective Clothing.

#### 6. **Conclusions**

- 6.1. As detailed above there are strong arguments for introducing site based gardening staff in Community Parks. There are 75 Community Parks, 25 of which already have site based gardeners. The proposals are to have site based gardeners in a further 29

---

<sup>3</sup> Dunnett, N., Swanwick, C. & Woolley, H. Improving urban parks, play areas and green space, 2002, University of Sheffield

<sup>4</sup> Parks need Parkforce, CABE Space 2005

<sup>5</sup> Local Government Association 'Reputations' initiative, 2005



## Appendix 5

Community Parks which are large enough to warrant a permanent gardener, this information is shown on the attached plan.

- 6.2. For North West Inner Area it is recommended that there is the following additional provision of site based gardeners:

Site Name	Inner/Outer Wedge	Current full-time gardener present	Proposed full-time gardener
Becketts Park	North West Inner		Y
Burley Park	North West Inner	Y	
Lovell Park (maintained by South)	North West Inner	Y	
The Hollies	North West Inner	Y	
Woodhouse Moor Park	North West Inner	Y	
Woodhouse Ridge	North West Inner		Y

- 6.3. Park gardeners will be : -

- Responsible for the park and its users
- Based on site, not area based
- Contactable by users of the park when they are needed
- Available during daylight hours

## 7. Recommendations

- 7.1. In order to appoint the 2 full time gardeners as outlined above, the Committee is asked to consider the allocation of £35,600 per annum in support of the proposal.



Agenda item:  
Originator: Helen Edwards  
Tel: 39 50534

**Report of the Chief Officer, Executive Support**

**Inner North West Area Committee**

**Date: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

**Subject: Council newspaper – Area Management involvement**

**Electoral wards affected:**  
All

**Specific implications for:**  
Ethnic minorities   
Women   
Disabled people   
Narrowing the gap

Council function

Delegated executive function available for call in

Delegated executive function not available for Call In. Details set out in the report

**Executive Summary**

This paper provides an update on the council newspaper, specifically issues surrounding the financial contributions of area management during 2006/7. It identifies the involvement of Area Management to date, opportunities presented by the newspaper and recommends financial contributions from each area committee.

**1.0 Purpose of this report**

1.1 This report outlines the role of the council’s newspaper as a key communications channel and proposes options for financial contribution from Area Management Committees to the future funding of council newspaper. These have already been considered by Area Committee chairs and following their support, this paper provides the opportunity for discussions with Area Management Committees.

**2.0 Background information**

2.1 Leeds City Council has used a resident newspaper as a way of increasing awareness about council services since 1999. Since then, the newspaper has provided the people of Leeds with timely information, facts and news about the council and their city.

2.2 The original purpose of the newspaper was to avoid duplication of information, conflicting messages and high costs associated with distributing a range of corporate and departmental publications. It aims to meet the council’s commitment to open and honest

communications, keeping the people of Leeds informed and providing opportunities for residents to give their views.

- 2.3 This was in line with MORI research which found that council newspapers were in the top three preferred methods of receiving information, as voted by residents. Their main benefits were identified as the ability to reach a wide audience of residents, the low cost (in comparison with one off publications), regular and planned communications and effective distribution.
- 2.4 Following a review of the newspaper in early 2005, both CMT and LMT confirmed their support for the newspaper as a valuable communications tool and supported these principles of good communications.
- 2.5 In terms of the outcomes of the review of the newspaper, it is now produced quarterly, with themed pages (for example Living in Leeds, Learning in Leeds, Streets of Leeds) enabling a focus on services and also incorporates the opportunity for commercial advertising or paid for supplements. In light of these changes, departments now contribute to the production of the paper, with guaranteed space each issue. Area Management now also have dedicated pages, (five in total) in each edition, which are wholly focused on activities in their area, again with the opportunity for further space to be purchased.
- 2.6 In 2005/6, there was no cost for Area Committees for their contribution to three editions of About Leeds. Work has been undertaken to consider and respond to feedback from area committees in Autumn 2005, in order to represent About Leeds as an effective means of communication for all Area Committees, and therefore to secure the agreement to contribute in 2006/7.
- 2.7 Area committees agreed to review the proposals in advance of budget decisions for the 2006/07 financial year.
- 2.8 To secure the future viability of the newspaper for the 2006/7 financial year, the support of area committees is essential. This paper provides the opportunity for area committees to consider proposals relating to their financial contribution based on the benefits evident from the three editions produced in 2005/6.

### **3.0 Main issues**

- 3.1 Since the review of the newspaper in 2005, each edition has included information dedicated to Area Management. The information has been sourced, written and approved by each Committee representative. Corporate Communications have edited the information to suit the house style and layout. Pages have included up and coming area committee and forum dates, and other important information relating to area investment, regeneration and improvements, consultation, area committee funded initiatives and successes, as well as raising the profile of the role of area management in local communities.
- 3.2 All ten Area Management committees were initially approached to contribute to the funding of the newspaper in 2005/6, enabling them to fulfill their requirements to communicate with their areas at least once per year under the consultation and engagement policy for Area Management.
- 3.3 Following feedback from Area Management committees, it was agreed that they would be approached at the start of the 2006/7 to contribute to the funding of the paper through buying space in the newspaper. This would include a page in each edition, covering each wedge, under the 'Living in Leeds' section, providing residents with an update on what was happening in their area. This would enable the Area Committees to review content from the first few editions and see how their information would be presented, prior to making a decision for 2006/7.

- 3.4 Area committees also raised a number of issues relating the newspaper and its production. In summary these were;
- i) clarification of the editorial process and final decisions
  - ii) code of practice and protocols relating to content of the newspaper
  - iii) compilation of a story list – both the quality and quantity of stories to be supplied for area committees
  - iv) clarification of the what the financial contribution from each area committee will purchase
- 3.5 Clarification of the practice, process and protocols has now been provided to the satisfaction of the area committee representatives.
- 3.6 Area committees can apply for more than one page per issue if there was a requirement. This can either be arranged on an issue-by-issue basis for a one off event or promotion or as a permanent fixture. There would be a further cost implication for the allocation of more pages.
- 3.7 It is also be possible to insert leaflets or other communications into the newspaper and then to distribute to specific wards, wedges or postcode areas. This would be particularly useful if committees wished to target a specific area for consultation, communication or promotion of an event. There would be a small cost for this additional distribution but this would be considerable less that the costs of distributing the insert on its own, costs are dependent on circulation sizes.
- 3.8 Ideas for content are sourced and drafted at the area management level, however the Corporate Communications Team provide a copywriting service to ensure text is written/edited to suit the newspaper's house style. The cost for this service, in addition to costs for design and distribution management, would be covered by the annual contribution from Area Management to the newspaper.
- 3.9 By having a consistent presence in every edition, the work of area management will be seen holistically, helping residents to gain a clearer impression of how the wedges interact and overlap, whilst also appreciating the work being undertaken where they live. Regular assured space in each edition for each wedge also means an equal weighting of publicity to every area of the city.
- 3.10 As the start of the new financial year is approaching, contributions towards the cost of the newspaper need to be finalised – specifically contributions from Area Committees.
- 3.11 As part of the newspaper review, members agreed to a proposal to generate income in order to produce four editions of the newspaper each year, which would come from contributions from departments and area management, as well as limited commercial advertising.
- 3.12 In regard to commercial advertising, the council's Advertising Officer in the Development Department continues to actively seek advertisers. Whilst no income has to date been generated this way, the Corporate Communications team have secured over £17,000 of additional income in 2005/06 to supplement the costs of production. The team has also liaised with other private sector organisations to negotiate more attractive reader competition prizes, for example Jet2 flights, win an Ipod and meet the Harlem globetrotters to improve the publication's popularity amongst the readership. The Jet2 competition attracted over 600 entries from Leeds' residents.
- 3.13 The corporate budget, departmental contributions and some commercial and partner advertising will go some way to covering the costs of four editions of the newspaper for 2006/7. However following an analysis of the level of resource required, a test in interest and potential of income generation from selling advertising in the first two editions of the paper, it is anticipated that there will be a limited contribution from selling advertising space in 2006/07.

- 3.14 Each Area Committee is therefore now being asked to contribute £625 per edition, a total of £2,500 for the 2006/7 financial year. This contribution will provide five pages dedicated to Area Management in four editions of the newspaper and all the benefits associated with a regular, planned and comprehensive communications channel. (In comparison, the cost of printing and distributing information in a separate leaflet citywide four times a year would be in excess of £28,000).

### **4.0 Implications for council policy and governance**

- 4.1 Making sure that the people of Leeds are informed and can give their views is fundamental to the principle of good communications and is a key part of the council's corporate communications strategy 2005-8 and Council Plan.
- 4.2 Area Management committees need to fulfill their requirements to communicate with their areas a least once per year under the consultation and engagement policy for Area Management.
- 4.3 Both CMT and LMT have given their full support for the future of the newspaper as a key communications tool, having recommended greater department and area management involvement.

### **5.0 Legal and resource implications**

- 5.1 A review of the costs of paper, print, design and the associated procurement procedures took place, with new contracts awarded in summer 2005. This has ensured that the council is benefiting from the most cost-effective service.
- 5.2 The contributions of all Area Committees will be essential to the production of the newspaper in 2006/7; without their support, there will be a significant shortfall in the budget, which commercial advertising could not fill.
- 5.3 To ensure the future success of area-focused pages within the newspaper, support from all area committees is essential for the initiative, as without the involvement of all areas, the newspaper will lack credibility with residents.

### **6.0 Conclusions**

- 6.1 A major research project into improving communications in local government, (Connecting with Communities), concluded that "Councils should ensure that local citizens are effectively consulted and communicated with so that they can significantly influence the quality and nature of services that they receive – authorities must aim to empower local residents to do this". The council newspaper is one of the tools used to meet this expectation.
- 6.2 Area Committee members are asked to consider the following proposals, particularly in light of the points highlighted about the credibility of the newspaper and support across the city.
- 6.3 The loss of the paper could remove one of the main (and most inclusive) forums the council has to inform and consult with the public on a regular basis. It makes a real difference to the service we provide and customer satisfaction levels throughout the city. Without the active support of departments, area committees and partners, the newspaper cannot continue to exist.
- 6.4 Area committee chairs have considered these proposals at their February meeting. They discussed the opportunities provided by the newspaper along with the opportunity for taking more than the allocated five pages, which would be available at a modest additional cost. Area committee chairs agreed to take the recommendations of financial contribution to the members of their area committees.

**7.0 Recommendations**

- 7.1 Area Committees are asked to;
- i) provide their views on the contributions of area committees to the council newspaper
  - ii) agree to the principle of supporting the council newspaper through the area committee budget - a contribution of £2,500 for 2006/7, for four editions, with half a page per edition per area committee
  - iii) to undertake a further review in a year's time.