

LEEDS LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

**Meeting to be held in The Civic Hall, Leeds on
Tuesday, 5th February, 2008 at 6.30 pm**

MEMBERSHIP

- Dr M Willison (Chair) - User of local rights of way
- Mr P Maude - User of local rights of way
- Mrs D Metcalf - User of local rights of way
- Mr S Wood - User of Local Rights of Way
- Mrs D Lawson - Owners and Occupiers
- Councillor J Dunn - LCC
- Councillor C Fox - LCC

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AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies for Absence**
To receive apologies for absence (if any).
- 2 **Chair's Opening Remarks**
To receive any opening remarks from the Chair.
- 3 **Minutes of the last meeting** 1 - 10
To approve the minutes of the last meeting of the Leeds Local Access Forum held on the following dates:
 - 9th October 2007
 - 20th November 2007
- 4 **Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**
To address any matters arising from the minutes of the last meetings.
- 5 **Rights of Way Improvement Plan Update** 11 - 12
To receive an update regarding the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- 6 **Correspondence** 13 - 92
To receive and respond to the following correspondence:
 - National Access Forum
 - Ramblers' Association – Asset Management Grant Scheme
 - British Horse Society – List of Street
 - Equestrian Access Forum – Discovering Lost Ways
 - Waymark - Institute of Public Rights of Way Management
 - Minister for Marine, Landscape and Rural Affairs – Letter from Jonathon Shaw MP
 - Natural England – Funding or Rights of Way – Presentations to the Institute of Public Rights of Way Management Conference
- 7 **Gating Orders** 93 - 134
To consider the attached guidance and report in relations to Gating Orders.

(Reports Attached)
- 8 **West Leeds Country Parks and Green Gateways** 135 - 148
To receive the minutes and reports of the last meeting of West Leeds Country Parks and Green Gateways Committee held on 10th December 2007.

9	Access Newsletters	149 - 152
	To receive the most recent Access Newsletters.	
10	Consultation Responses	153 - 156
	To note the Chair's response to the Consultation of the Aire Valley Area Action Plan.	
11	Items for the next meeting	
	To proposed items to be considered at the next meeting of the Forum.	
12	Date and Time of Next Meeting	
	The proposed date of the next meeting is Tuesday 13 th May 2007 at 18:30 p.m.	

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Leeds Local Access Forum

Tuesday, 9th October, 2007

PRESENT: Dr. Mike Willison in the Chair

Councillor J Dunn, Councillor C Fox,
Doreen Lawson, Didy Metcalf and Steven
Wood

IN

ATTENDANCE:

- Paul Bowers, Principal Legal Officer
- Roger Brooks, Rights of Way
Development Officer
- Bob Buckenham, Definitive Map Officer
- David Feeney, Head of Planning and
Economic Policy
- Laura Pilgrim, Governance Services
Officer

52 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Phillip Maude.

53 Chairs Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed two new Members to the Forum, Mr. Steven Wood representing users of local rights of way and Councillor Jack Dunn who had been appointed by Leeds City Council. The Chair also welcomed David Feeney, Head of Planning and Economic Policy and Bob Buckenham, Definitive Map Planning Officer who were also in attendance.

54 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting of the Leeds Local Access Forum held on Tuesday 17th July 2007 were approved as a correct record.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be approved.

55 Matters Arising From the Minutes of the Last Meeting

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting which were discussed.

Draft Minutes to be approved at the next meeting
to be held on Tuesday 5th February 2008

56 Leeds Local Development Framework

The Forum received a presentation from David Feeney, Head of Planning and Economic Policy on an overview of the Local Development Framework (LDF), its background and position in relation to other policy documents.

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced the LDF following the changes prompted by the National Legislation Planning Green Paper 'Planning – Delivering a Fundamental Changes' (December 2001). The Act 2004 introduced the LDF to replace the Unitary Development Plans (UDPs). The LDF was intended to consist of a series of plans with a greater emphasis on spatial awareness and the environmental, economic and social impact of development. UDPs had previously focused on land usage issues. The LDF was constituted of a number of policy documents a number were compulsory such as the Core Strategy, Statement of Community Involvement and the Annual Monitoring Report. Other documents such as Supplementary Planning Documents and Area Action Plans were optional.

The Head of Planning and Economic Policy then went on to outline the position of the LDF in both national and regional strategies such as within Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) which were to replace Regional Planning Guidance. The Forum was advised that the policies set under the UDP would continue to be used until the policies under the LDF were gradually phased in. Due to the high level of public interest in the LDF the consultation process and the introduction of new policies was taking a long time.

There was currently a consultation on the Regional Plan proposed for the area which would close in December 2007. Under this Consultation the proposed housing allocation for Leeds had increased significantly to 4300 dwellings to meet Government targets. This figure was calculated taking into consideration issues such as housing need and economic performance.

A number of Area Action Plans (AAPs) had been developed for Leeds. Action Plans were in different stages in development for areas in need of urgent regeneration: the City Centre, Aire Valley, East and South East Leeds and West Leeds Gateway. All required a period of public consultation. The East and South East Leeds Area Action Plan had completed its 'Preferred Options' consultation stage and the Aire Valley Area Action Plan was shortly to complete the same consultation which would close in November 2007. West Leeds Gateway would open for public consultation on preferred options early in 2008.

The Core Strategy aimed to set out the Council's vision for Leeds for the next 20 years and was the principal document of the LDF. The Issues and Alternative Options document which had been prepared would open for consultation in October for a six week period. The Core Strategy looked at Leeds in a series of thematic ways and provided consultees with a number of future scenarios on development in the future. The Consultation documentation included a series of questions which asked respondents to consider environmental protection, social inclusion and economic development.

In the discussions which followed a number of issues were discussed:

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- The Guidance on Local Access Forums in England advised of the areas where the Local Access Forum should be consulted. As the Core Strategy was covered in the areas outlined in the Guidance the Chair proposed to convene a Special meeting of the Forum to discuss in greater detail the LDF Core Strategy and to produce a response on behalf of the Forum. With the agreement of the Forum and officers the date was confirmed as 20th November 2007.
- Area Action Plans also looked at housing need in the areas and improving interaction and accessibility between different areas.
- During the consultation period there would be a number of 'drop-in' days for both the LDF Core Strategy and the AAPs to address any concerns.
- The Forum raised its concerns over the proposed increase housing allocation for Leeds and the probable impact it may have on green spaces and the Green Belt.
- The UDP, which was currently in operation, did identify green spaces which were mapped. These areas would be protected until the LDF became operational. It was hoped that these areas would be protected and enhanced under AAPs.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Head of Planning and Economic Policy be thanked for his presentation.
- b) That a Special Meeting of the Leeds Local Access Forum be convened for 20th November 2007 to discuss the Local Development Framework Core Strategy Consultation Document.

57 West Leeds Country Park and Green Gateways Management Plan

Members noted that the Officer had not been able to attend the meeting and that an update would be provided at the next meeting.

RESOLVED – That an update on the West Leeds Country Park and Green Gateways Management Plan be provided at the next meeting of the Forum.

58 Open Access and Rights of Way Improvements Plan Update

Open Access

In relation to Open Access there was little progress to report to the Forum and officers were still limited in what funds were available to them as identified in the letter from Natural England contained in the agenda. Officers were working with BTCV with regard to Hawksworth Moor pathways. A joint meeting had been held with Bradford City Council to develop a Comprehensive Management Plan for Moorland in which Bradford would be taking the lead.

Regarding the access route at Rumbles Moor Officers were still waiting for action from Bradford City Council. It was hoped that the path would be developed wide

enough to be upgraded to a multi-user path in the future however the path was currently isolated as it led to footpaths only at the moment.

Rights Of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP)

The Forum noted that the ROWIP consultation document had not been published as expected as the Chief Recreation Officer and the Lead Member for Leisure Services had not met to approve the document. The consultation document had been available for approval since the last meeting of the Forum and with the statutory requirement of a 12 week consultation period the ROWIP would now fail to meet the statutory deadline for completion. Members of the Forum wished to have their concern and disappointment regarding the inability to approve the document and the significant delay its progress minuted. The Forum also resolved that their concern in this matter be conveyed in a letter to the Chief Recreation Officer and the Lead Member for Leisure Services. The Chair also requested that all future agendas of the Forum were sent to the Chief Recreation Officer and the Lead Member to ensure that they were up to date with the work of the Forum in all matters including ROWIP.

RESOLVED:

- a) The Forum noted the delay in approving the ROWIP for consultation.
- b) The Forum wished their concern and disappointment in the failure to approve the ROWIP Consultation Document be to the Chief Recreation Officer and the Lead Member for Leisure Services.
- c) That the Chief Recreation Officer and Lead Member for Leisure Services be sent all future agendas for the Local Access Forum to keep them up to date with the work of the Forum

59 E-Bulletin Number 5 - Discovering Lost Ways

The Forum received and noted an E-Bulletin from Natural England on Discovering Lost Ways. The Forum also welcomed Bob Buckenham, Definitive Map Officer, who had attended the meeting to provide Members with an update on the process in Leeds in discovering lost ways. Definitive Map Officers (DMOs) were not only involved in the discovering of Lost Ways but also dealt with appeals made regarding Lost Ways. All work in this area was targeted at the Government deadline of 2026 where any rights of way which were not identified by local authorities would be extinguished.

Alongside the work in Lost Ways officers were also undertaking a Parish Review of public rights of way and were in the process of completing reviews of Boston Spa and Arthington Parishes. Officers had completed reviews of smaller parishes first in order to gain experience for the larger areas. The Review was also a mechanism for identifying lost ways.

Interested parties had become involved in the work of Lost Ways such as the Archaeological Society following a presentation by officers and the work also attracted interest from local users of public rights of way. Officers were restricted somewhat in the work which was completed due to resources. As both the reviews

could unearth a number of issues and require a significant amount of work from officers the process could be lengthy and sometimes expensive.

The Forum welcomed the work completed by the officers and noted its impact on improving access and knowledge of public rights of way. The Forum in particular noted that there were no additional funds set aside by the Government to complete either of these tasks. Every effort was being made by officers to identify areas of funding for their work which the Forum supported.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the update be noted.
- b) That Officers be supported in their effort to obtain funding in order to complete their work by the 2026 deadline.

60 Open Access Natural England

Members of the Forum considered a correspondence received from Natural England in relation to a letter dated 15th November 2006 regarding grants under the Access Management Grant Scheme for 2006/07. The Forum was advised that Natural England had made limited funds available but with new priorities: Monitoring, Fire Planning, Essential works in relation to nature conservation, public safety where management would enable the implementation of the 'least restrictive option' for fire restrictions and staff to support these activities.

Leeds City Council Parks and Countryside Team had made an application for funding under the new priorities but were yet to receive a response from Natural England. Some work which had planned to be resourced from the original grant such as information leaflets had been undertaken under existing resources. Alternative sources of funding would be sought for other projects.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted and that any future developments in funding be reported to the Forum.

61 Items for the Next Meeting

A Special meeting of Leeds Local Access Forum was convened for Tuesday 20th November 2007 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the consultation document on the LDF Core Strategy.

The next ordinary meeting of the Leeds Local Access Forum would be held on Tuesday 5th February 2008. Items proposed for the meeting were:

- Modification Orders in relation to Planning.
- Rights of Way Improvement Plan Update.

Members were requested to advise the Secretary of any items they wished to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

Draft Minutes to be approved at the next meeting
to be held on Tuesday 5th February 2008

RESOLVED: That the items identified for the next meeting of the Leeds Local Access Forum be noted.

62 Date and Time of Future Meetings

The date and time of the next ordinary meeting of the Forum would be Tuesday 5th February 2008. Future meeting were also provisionally set for the 13th May 2008 and 15th July 2008.

A Special Meeting of the Forum was agreed to be held on Tuesday 20th November 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

(Please Note: The meeting opened at 18:30 and closed at 20:10)

Leeds Local Access Forum

Tuesday, 20th November, 2007

PRESENT: Dr Mike Willison in the Chair

Phillip Maude, Didy Metcalf, Doreen
Lawson and Councillor C Fox

IN

ATTENDANCE:

- Bob Buckenham – Definitive Map Officer
- David Feeney – Head of Planning and Economic Policy
- Laura Pilgrim – Governance Services

63 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor J Dunn and Steven Wood.

64 Leeds Local Development Framework : Core Strategy Consultation

The Chair welcomed Members of the Forum to the meeting and thanked them for attending the Special Meeting of the Forum to consider the consultation on Leeds Local Development Framework (LDF): Core Strategy. The Forum welcomed David Feeney, Head of Planning and Economic Policy to the meeting who was present to provide a background to the LDF Core Strategy and to answer questions.

In considering the questions contained in the consultation the Forum resolved to only answer questions which fell into the jurisdiction of the Leeds Local Access Forum as outlined in the Forum's Terms of Reference and Guidance issued by Defra. Members of the Forum were advised that they were also able to respond to the consultation on an individual basis if they wished to.

The Forum's response is outlined below:

1. Do you agree with the strategic Aims and Objectives?

Yes

2. No response

3. The Core Strategy needs to ensure that new development does not further worsen flood risk. This should be undertaken by:

c) Allowing residential development in any of the zone 3 high flood risk area providing it helps fulfil regeneration objectives and measures are in place to mitigate the effects of flooding.

4. The Core Strategy needs to ensure economic growth is achieved, whilst protecting and enhancing the natural environment. This should be undertaken by the development of green infrastructure, by

- a) Increasing the quantity of greenspace, by requiring new development to provide it. **Y**
- b) Reviewing the quantity of greenspace, to identify where it is not needed and could be used for alternative uses (including housing), to provide funds to improve the quality of other greenspaces **Y**
- c) Protecting and enhancing natural habitats, and identifying and mapping opportunities for habitat creation and restoration **Y**
- d) Protecting areas of special landscape quality **Y**

Comments: (b) The LLAF considers that the Review should take into consideration both quality and quantity of greenspaces. The completion of the Definitive Map for the central area of Leeds is an important contributor to the audit of greenspace linkages

5. The Core Strategy needs to make the most of its built environment and enhance the quality of places: This should be undertaken by:

- a) Identifying, protecting, and promoting heritage and the distinctive positive character of different areas, in
 - ii. throughout the district

Comments: The Strategy should acknowledge that the character-elements, such as ginnels, pack horse routes, paving, bridges etc, of historic Public Rights of Way are maintained.

6. Leeds needs to minimise the amount of waste arising. This should be undertaken by:

- a) Encouraging the treatment of waste at the highest possible level of the waste hierarchy **Y**
- b) Encouraging the processing of waste to add value and avoid landfill **Y**

7. No response

8. Criteria used to identify regeneration priority areas.

Do you think there are any additional criteria which should be used to identify regeneration priority areas? **N**

Comments: The LLAF particularly welcomes the inclusion of bullet point 9 (Urban areas with poor physical links to surrounding communities and the City Centre)

9. Regeneration Areas

Bearing in mind the criteria for identifying regeneration areas as listed in question 8, are there any other areas, which should be identified as a regeneration priority? **N**

10. Which options on Greenfield sites do you agree with?:

- a) Greenfield sites on the edge of urban areas should be held back from development until such time as the supply of housing from brownfield site development is insufficient to meet the housing requirements. This will mean intensifying the rate of development in urban areas with higher densities; and building on surplus greenspace and employment land, **Y**
- b) Strategies should be developed for the early release of Greenfield sites in the most sustainable locations in order to better meet needs for houses (as opposed to flats) and affordable dwellings. All sites would have to have sufficient levels of public transport and other necessary community infrastructure and meet high standards of sustainable design and construction

N

11. No response

12. No response

13. No response

14. Leeds needs to provide higher housing densities in order to both meet housing targets and to create sustainable communities. In particular, should the highest densities be promoted at the following locations:

- 1. In the City Centre **Y**
- 2. In town and district centres **Y**
- 3. On public transport nodes (such as railway stations) **Y**
- 4. On the edges of city centre locations **Y**

15. No response

16. No response

17. No response

18. No response

19. No response

20. No response

21. No response

22. No response

23. No response

24. No response

25. Leeds needs to maximise opportunities for people to improve their health and well being. How should this be undertaken?

- a) Provision of a green infrastructure throughout the District **Y**
- b) Improved provision of public sports hall and leisure centres
- c) Provision of safe, car free routes for cycling and walking **Y**
- d) Retain and where possible increase the provision of allotments **Y**

Responses to (b) and (e) are not within the LLAF's remit.

Comments: Add improved access for disabled and equestrian activities. The local Council should also aspire to improve Public Rights of Way not just maintain them. This could include greater emphasis on Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan.

26. No response

27. Leeds wants to provide greater choice in travel options open to people in order to encourage the use of the most sustainable forms of transport. Which of the following measures do you think will be most effective?

- b) High quality public transport systems **Y**
- f) Business and school travel plans to ensure sustainable transport patterns in existing and new developments **Y**

Comments: There should also be focus on Access from Homes to greenspace and Recreation areas as well as providing good connections between homes and work.

28. No response

29. No response

The Secretary of the Forum advised Members that the responses would be included into one document and submitted shortly.

RESOLVED: That the response of the formal Forum be agreed and forwarded to the responsible officer.

65 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The proposed date of the next meeting of the Forum will be the 5th February 2008.

LEEDS LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Councillor Proctor
Lead Member for Leisure Services

c/o Leeds City Council
Governance Services
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25 January 2008

Dear Councillor Proctor

RE: Leeds Local Access Forum – Meeting Held on Tuesday 9th October 2007

I write with regard to an update received by Leeds Local Access Forum at its last meeting on the 9th October 2007 in relation to the Rights of Way Improvement Plan. At our meeting on 17th July 2007 the Forum approved the Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan to go out for a statutory 12 week consultation period. However at the Forum's last meeting in October we were advised that the Draft document was still awaiting approval by the Chief Recreation Officer and Lead Member for Leisure Services before being issued for consultation. This means that the approval of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan has been significantly delayed, and therefore Leeds City Council, as local highway authority, will not meet the statutory deadline of 21 November 2007 for publication of the Plan, as required by section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

The Forum wished to express its concern and disappointment in the delay in approving an important document which has an instrumental role in the strategic development and improvement of public rights of way in Leeds. Whilst the Forum appreciates that you may have busy schedules, on behalf of the Forum I would urge both yourself and the Chief Recreation Officer to approve the document as soon as possible so that the consultation and approval process can be completed.

In order for you to be kept informed of the work of the Local Access Forum and development of Rights of Way Improvement Plan I have asked the Forum's Secretary to ensure that future copies of all agendas and minutes are sent to you. You are also very welcome to attend any future meetings of the Forum.

This letter constitutes formal advice from the Leeds Local Access Forum. Leeds City Council is required, in accordance with section 94 (5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to the relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.

If you have any queries relating to this matter please contact me through Laura Pilgrim, Secretary to the Forum on (0113) 2474359.

Yours sincerely

Dr. M. Willison
Chair of Leeds Local Access Forum

This letter constitutes formal advice from the Leeds Local Access Forum. Leeds City Council is required, in accordance with section 94 (5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to the relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.

Agenda Item 6

LETTER TO ALL LAFs IN ENGLAND

(copies : Hillary Scott at Natural England in Leeds, local MPs, Minister for Rural Affairs, Pam Warhurst)

GETTING OUR VOICES HEARD

Like many other LAFs we have recently received copies of correspondence between certain Forums and Ministers and/or Government Departments/ Agencies. Our representatives have attended regional meetings over the last 18 months to discuss particular issues, and some Forums are also in touch with one another through other mechanisms.

It does seem clear from all those sources that there is an element of discontent within the LAF fraternity about some key issues. These are coupled with a frustration that we are asked for our views but don't always know what impact they have, if any.

At present there appear to be certain issues which are concerning many LAFs. You'll no doubt have your own list, but notable amongst the ones we hear about are:

- ❖ The lack of funding to implement RoWIPs,
- ❖ Lack of meaningful progress over the last 2 years by the 'Lost Ways' project,
- ❖ A certain slowness in getting Natural England's work off the ground, the lack of information about its detailed policies/ priorities, and the drop in project funding compared to its predecessors.
- ❖ No provision of ongoing funding for the management of CRoW Act Access Land.

I sense that several Forums feel it is all too easy for the 'Powers that be' to shrug off our views as being of purely local significance, or just a matter which our local authorities should deal with, or simply classify our pleas as yet another body whining about money. However, it seems entirely logical for us to say that we were set up by Parliament to represent local views on access issues but we now need a better mechanism to ensure that those views get through to the seat of power and are given due regard.

Without a real chance of influencing the funding bodies and policy makers our findings could be seen as pointless. Our members then become de-motivated as they've worked on schemes to improve access issues and identify new opportunities but find there is no prospect of them ever coming to fruition.

Is it realistic and/or desirable, to propose the establishment of a 'National Access Forum' which could coordinate the views of LAFs and present them to the appropriate people ? Views would be welcomed,

Yours sincerely

David Nortcliffe

CHAIRMAN

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Dear LAF secretary,

The Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS), which provides funding to local authorities to support the implementation of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, has been vital to the successful introduction of the new rights of access in England.

It has supported a vast range of projects across the country, allowing increasingly effective management procedures to be put in place to lessen the need for restrictions and exclusions on the right of access, for the production of promotional materials and for the installation of the infrastructure needed to integrate access land within the wider countryside network.

This is the work that needs to be done to make the CROW Act succeed in practice and AMGS is the only funding stream that can support it. Work on access land is a power rather than a duty and without this funding, access authorities will simply be unable to carry it out.

The AMGS is scheduled to end in March 2008. We believe strongly that funding is needed to ensure the continued smooth operation of the new rights, to maximise the benefits of the legislation for the public and to meet the management needs of landowners and nature conservation.

We have put together a short factsheet giving some background information on the AMGS, our research and lobbying work to date, and what part Local Access Forums can play. Please help us secure the future of this vital funding by writing to the chairman of Natural England, Sir Martin Doughty, stating your support for the continuation of the Access Management Grant Scheme and calling for a clear and immediate commitment to its extension.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Granville
Campaigns Officer

020 7339 8561

richardg@ramblers.org.uk

The Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS)

What is it?

The Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS) was designed to support the implementation of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, under which the public were granted a right of access on foot to mapped areas of mountain, moor, heath, down and common land. The scheme provides both an incentive and a means of support for access authorities in making use of the powers that they have been given to manage the implementation of the new right of open access at a local level.

Funding priorities

The AMGS scheme has five funding branches, covering everything from nature conservation to reducing the level of restrictions, and provides the ideal platform to think about all of these facets of access land use together. The five objectives of the scheme are:

- Protecting vulnerable features on nature conservation sites – research into the effect of increased access on sensitive species or habitats, often on designated areas like Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
- Improving public safety – funding work into reducing the risk posed to the public, lessening the need for restrictions and investigating informal access management
- Reducing the level of land management restrictions – funding works where a restriction has been applied to lessen the likelihood of it being required again in the future
- Planning for fire prevention – providing proactive fire management and partnership working through the development of plans at an access authority level
- Making all other access land available for use – infrastructure and information provision, both on and off-site

This funding has proved invaluable over the last three years, with some fifty authorities applying for over £3 million in support of their access land projects. Work on access land is a statutory power rather than a duty and ongoing funding is essential to make sure that the access network remains open and accessible to as many people as possible. Without dedicated funding from the AMGS, money for this work would have to be found within the already stretched budgets of local authority rights of way departments, jeopardising future developments and threatening even the most basic maintenance.

Ramblers' Association survey results

We have been able to collect information that demonstrates just how valuable this funding has been. We sent a questionnaire to every local authority in England asking them about their experiences of using the scheme and how they adjusted during the suspension of funding in the summer of 2006. The results showed that:

- 72% of the respondents who applied for AMGS funding said that their ability to manage access land was compromised by its removal.
- 18 Access Authorities (just under half of all the eligible respondents) had projects that had to be suspended, or planned but never started, due to the removal of AMGS funding.

- For many authorities, the withdrawal of AMGS funding meant that they could no longer be proactive in their work on access land. This affected their ability to make long-term plans and devise projects, forcing them to be simple (and often selective) problem-solvers, reacting to issues as they were raised and seeking the quickest and cheapest solution.
- The revelations from local authority officers were often stark. Some of the comments include:
 - “We have no budget for ongoing maintenance, therefore there is no maintenance”
 - “Posts were lost due to funding cuts”
 - “Good opportunities to address access land issues were lost.”
 - “The budget is only really available for statutory duties. AMGS funding has allowed other projects to proceed which wouldn't have done otherwise”

Local Access Forums – How you can help

Local Access Forums (LAFs) are ideally placed to recognise the value of the AMGS and present a unified voice in the campaign to save and extend it. This funding benefits everyone with an interest in countryside access, both user groups and land managers, by improving the network and reducing the burden on local authorities. LAFs, as statutory advice-giving bodies and a resource of local expertise and knowledge, can also quiz local authorities on their own access land work and promote project ideas that they would like to see implemented.

You and your forum can:

- Ask your authority whether they have used AMGS funding and, if they have, what projects it has supported.
- Incorporate this information into a letter to Sir Martin Doughty, the Chairman of Natural England, stating your support for the Access Management Grant Scheme and calling for a clear and immediate commitment to its extension.

Sir Martin Doughty
 Chairman Natural England
 1 East Parade
 Sheffield
 S1 2ET

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Dear Local Access Forum Members

I refer to the list of streets maintainable at public expense prepared under section 36(6) of the Highways Act 1980.

I would be grateful if you could let me know :-

1. Whether you are taking any steps to ensure that your local highway authority will record those historic public rights of way, that are recorded on the List of Streets but not on the Definitive Map and Statement, are put onto the Definitive Map and Statement, as the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 does not provide for these to be preserved after the 2026 cut off date?
2. Whether you have carried out an assessment of how many such routes your local highway authority has?
3. If so how many routes does it have?

I look forward to hearing from you in due course,

Yours sincerely

Mark Weston
Director of Access, Safety and Welfare

The British Horse Society

01926 707 712

access@bhs.org.uk

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Dr Helen Phillips
Chief Executive
Natural England
1 East Parade
Sheffield
S1 2ET

13 November 2007

Dear Dr Phillips,

**Natural England Executive Board Meeting 14th November 2007
Discovering Lost Ways.**

I understand that at the above meeting you will be deliberating on the future of the Discovering Lost Ways Project.

The Equestrian Access Forum (which was formed as a result of the joint Defra/Horse Industry long term economic and social strategy) is disappointed at the failure to get a single lost route onto the Definitive Map and Statement. If the purpose of the relevant provision of the CROW Act 2000 was to achieve a real outcome, rather than simply make politically attractive noises, then the policy must so far be considered a failure.

This is particularly disturbing as the cut-off date of 1st January 2026 is getting ever closer: the complexity of the process of getting all lost ways recorded onto the Definitive Map and Statement now makes this date unachievable. The Forum therefore advocates that the cut-off date of 1st January should not now be implemented. If this recommendation were accepted the researching and recording of Lost Ways could continue, and routes that would be of considerable benefit to horse riders and carriage drivers would still be able to be put onto the Definitive Map. (Many of these routes are not truly “lost” since they are already being used or are currently recorded as footpaths.)

The Discovering Lost Ways Project, if implemented as it was originally intended, would deliver great benefits to the equestrian and cycling communities. In particular, it would join up much of the existing, fragmented public rights of way network, especially for horse riders and cyclists; it would resolve many current anomalies on the Definitive Map where routes change status at parish boundaries; and it would preserve many landscape features which form part of our cultural heritage, such as hedged/banked lanes/drove roads, for future generations

But it does need sufficient funding and the necessary political will to see it implemented.

As you are doubtless aware, horse riders currently have access only to c22% of the public rights of way network, with carriage drivers having access only to 5%. At present bridleways and byways rarely link up with each other to provide rides which equestrians can access without having to use the road network, which is getting ever busier.

It is therefore essential that this opportunity to improve our rights of way network is not lost by any watering down of the original proposed outcomes of the project. Whilst I do not underestimate the costs of amending legislation even in this *de minimis* way, extending the cut off date well beyond 1st January 2026 would be a cost effective way of achieving what the Government originally intended.

I should add that it would be beneficial to the project if the present adversarial, expensive system of getting rights of way put onto the Definitive Map were to be reviewed. The DLW Project is an evidence based process and as such it should be possible to determine a process for getting such routes onto the definitive map without the need for a time consuming and adversarial public inquiry.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Cory', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Graham M Cory
Chairman, Equestrian Access Forum

cc Board Members

Dear LAF Secretary,

'Waymark' is the journal of the Institute of Public Rights of Way Management and exclusively covers all rights of way and countryside access issues for those with an interest in access management. We believe that this will be of interest and value to your LAF members. In particular, Waymark will keep your members up to date with; the latest legislation and important case law – not just reporting the law but interpreting it for the professional and 'educated lay-person' alike; with the latest practical techniques; with debate about the issues that are of current concern to the professionals; with coverage of interpretation and promotion, maintenance and enforcement, definitive map matters, access land, coastal access, ROWIPs etc., etc. (and, of course, we also carry articles by LAF members and about LAF issues).

IPROW believes that Waymark would be useful and valued reading material for all LAF members and would like to invite your LAF to subscribe to this quarterly journal. Subscriptions cost just £30 (inc. P&P) for single copy subscriptions or a discounted corporate subscription (providing 4 copies of each edition to the same address) can be had for £70.50.

If your LAF would like to subscribe, please reply with full contact details and instructions as to billing. Or, if you would like to review a recent copy of Waymark before taking out a subscription, please e-mail me your postal address and I will arrange for a copy to be sent to you.

Regards,

Mike Furness
Waymark Editor.

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To: All Local Access Forums in England

Your ref:
Our ref:
14 January 2008

From Jonathan Shaw MP
Minister for Marine, Landscape & Rural Affairs and Minister for the South East

Dear Local Access Forum member,

As we start a new year, I thought it would be timely to introduce myself to each Local Access Forum as the Minister for Marine, Landscape & Rural Affairs.

We have not long introduced new regulations and guidance for Local Access Forums, and I know that Natural England is also working towards producing a Handbook for Local Access Forum members. I hope that the guidance and regulations have assisted you in developing your role further, so that the support that you receive from Defra, in turn helps you to contribute effectively on issues which are most relevant to your specific locality.

Your recent contribution to the production of Rights of Way Improvement Plans has been invaluable and the achievement in producing the plans is a significant step forward in both raising the profile of the rights of way network and highlighting its importance to tourism and local communities.

I am grateful for the hard work that you put in to this important undertaking, and for the knowledge and expertise you bring in contributing your advice on improving public access. I look forward to working with you all in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Shaw". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'S'.

JONATHAN SHAW

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Dear all,

Following a presentation that Lucy Heath and I gave to the IPROW conference at Oxford University on future funding streams for ROWIP implementation, I have been asked by several LAFs for a copy.

I attach a copy of the powerpoint presentation and the accompanying notes that went with our presentation and hope you find them useful. Please feel free to make use of these if you wish. As the notes explain this represents work in progress and we will be updating it periodically. The notes are also on the IPROW GPG website. Please also be aware that this paper is not comprehensive but includes those funding streams where there is a realistic opportunity of bidding for funds for ROW implementation.

With kind regards

Jane

<<IPROW presentation v2.ppt>> <<ROWIP funding paper V7.doc>>

Jane Yates

Recreation and Access Specialist

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The following notes are provided by Natural England to supplement a presentation at the IPROW Conference in Oxford on 24th September, 2007. It is a work in progress as we collate information to support ROWIP implementation and share it. The notes will be added to as further data is gathered.

SECURING RESOURCES FOR ROWIP IMPLEMENTATION

“Whatever you do now in rights of way, its about looking wider than the line on the ground. You must develop linkage between other strategies and policies to effectively develop the funding” Peter Tilley, Suffolk County Council.

Introduction

This advice is our start in collating information about funding and other resources that deliver ROWIP implementation. We aim to keep this updated via the GPG and continue to seek case studies to illustrate successful implementation schemes. We will also insert a reference to this into the LAF information pack. This paper is targeted at LAFs as well as LHAs, as some are well placed to help you by making the connection between funding sources and the community.

The advice is split into three parts:

1. Some general advice for securing resources, achieving success and explaining about the changing emphasis in government policy to putting people first and enabling them to become the drivers in securing schemes that meet local needs.
2. Current available funding programmes, illustrated with examples that will be appropriate to look at for ROWIP implementation schemes.
3. Other resources that help deliver ROWIP implementation

1. The process of securing resources

Seeking and securing funds and other resources for ROWIP implementation is only part of a staged approach to securing sustainable improvements to ROW networks. The ROWIP development process itself will have been the first stage in identifying projects based on user needs. Any successful funding bid will rely on a number of elements being in place that convince the funder that you have identified the project based on real needs, that communities, user groups, businesses and other stakeholders affected by the project are supportive and that you can deliver the project to budget, meeting any requirements the funder might put upon you, e.g. meeting environmental standards, sustainable long term management and maintenance, community ownership and participation.

Key stages to consider:

- Consider all funding models and examples of successful schemes
- Learn how to work effectively with communities and politicians to make a case for ROW

- Consider how ROW can be prioritised within other strategic documents other than the ROWIP and also within Local Area Agreements (LAAs)

General hints and tips

(taken from proceedings of the CRN conference “The Changing Funding Environment for Outdoor Recreation” May 2007)

- Funding is in fixed or reducing supply
- Demand has never been higher
- The “bar is being raised”
- Professionalism in bid writing is high
- Tailor projects to fit funders’ objectives/criteria – necessary to satisfy their needs too
- Funders will check there is majority support for the project
- Bids with supporting evidence tend to be better received
- More robust evidence will be required
- Build up contacts and a good working relationship with funder.
- Partnership working – this is expected and shows cooperation and using the strengths of a number of partners
- Liaise with Regional Development Agencies, do not underestimate personal contacts in RDAs and assess projects that may fit with RDA objectives.
- RDAs have different priorities so it is worth finding out what is the regional agenda. The North East and North West RDAs have larger funding pots for outdoor recreation to contribute to projects
- Strongly recommend economic evaluation using Government standards- the HM Treasury Green Book which explains how to justify actions (investments) rationally and the DCMS White Book which focuses on demonstrating “additionality” and is consistent with the Green Book.
- BIG Lottery, Defra, DH, DCLG are very keen on economic appraisal and it’s important to set aside an appropriate amount for the economic evaluation of a scheme with output apt to the intended audience.

In addition we would add:-

- Be on track with latest government agenda on local decision making and empowerment, e.g. Gordon Brown's vision for a 'reinvention of the way we govern', promoting 'the active citizen, the empowered community, open enabling government'. (Local Government White Paper on “Strong and Prosperous Communities”).
- The long term sustainability of a project that ensures ongoing management and maintenance should be considered and built into any funding application.

2. Potential ROWIP Funding Sources

The following list of potential sources is by no means exhaustive but gives an indication of where funding might be sought.

EU PROGRAMMES

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and LIFE+ are all applicable to the whole of the UK and represent a marked change in policy to Objective 1 and 2 funding during the past programme 2000-2006.

We will welcome examples of how you engage with RDAs in future and examples of successful funding for ROW under these programmes.

EAFRD –There are current opportunities for influencing Regional Development Agencies on how to operate this funding as it is at an early stage and may be appropriate for ROW projects

- Aim is diversification of rural economies
- In practice will focus on environmental management activities
- Approx £3.9bn
- England Rural Development Programme structured around 3 themes:
 - Enhancing the environment and countryside, linking to environmental stewardship commitments
 - Making farming and forestry more competitive and sustainable
 - Enhancing opportunity in rural areas
- Greater engagement of RDAs
- Regional Implementation Plans (RIPs) currently being drafted for each region and strong opportunities for appropriate outdoor recreation. Eligibility for ROW will depend on what is in each regional plan.

ERDF

- Less money, spread more thinly
- Tendency not to fund under ERDF if funding possible under EAFRD
- At least two –thirds of any award must be spent on a limited range of employment actions:
 - promoting innovation and knowledge transfer
 - stimulating enterprise and supporting successful businesses
 - ensuring sustainable development, production and consumption
 - building sustainable communities

EXAMPLE

Suffolk County Council was awarded £80,200 from ERDF with additional funding from other sources for the creation of the “Discover Suffolk” website which helped deliver a number of targets in their Rights of Way Improvement Plan. This provides opportunities for rural enterprises to promote themselves, promotes circular and long distance walks as well as improvements to the rights of way network and transport links. For more information: www.discoversuffolk.org.uk

LIFE+

- Popular well established EU programme
- 3 key strands:
 - Nature and biodiversity

- Implementation and governance
- Information and communication
- $\frac{3}{4}$ of LIFE+ under control of national authorities although projects will require EU approval
- Approx E70m for 1st 4 yrs
- UK co-ordinating body to be appointed
- 1st calls – late 2007

EXAMPLE

A previous successful project was the Parrett Trail in S. Somerset, a 42 mile footpath route from the source of the R. Parrett to its mouth. The weblink can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life..>

Hints and tips- Talk to colleagues who have had some success. EU looks at track record of organisations and uses a scoring system for assessment. If an application is not successful there will be no funding for any feasibility studies done up to point of application but if a scheme is successful, the EU will cover the costs of prior meetings and studies.

UK PROGRAMMES

THIS DOESN'T COVER EVERYTHING – WE KNOW THERE ARE GAPS & ITS IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER

Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING PILOTS – A DCLG initiative that might provide opportunities for ROWIP funding

Government's devolution agenda is driving local decision making by putting funding in the hands of those who will benefit from it. On July 5th, Hazel Blears, Secretary for Communities and Local Government announced funding for ten pilot projects which have been developed in Birmingham, Merseyside, Lewisham, Bradford, Salford, Sunderland, Newcastle, Southampton, Nottinghamshire (Manton) and St Helens. These will contribute to radical new plans to give local people a chance to examine and decide on how public budgets of up to more than £20 million are spent.

This can enable local people to form an informed view, trigger action and direct resources at:

- Funding extra Community Safety Wardens to patrol the streets and tackle anti-social behaviour;
- Providing new play areas, greening public spaces, and **improving the local environment;**
- **Calming traffic to improve road safety;** and
- Funding extra police or CCTV.

She also announced £400,000 funding for projects in 20 areas where local authorities are working with communities to give them a chance to take ownership of assets in line with the recommendations of the Quirk Review May 2007
www.communities.gov.uk/pub/517/

USING “CULTURE” AS A DRIVER FOR ACCESSING FUNDS

The report “Regeneration Through Culture, Sport and Tourism” commissioned for ODPM 2006 states that local authorities “will need to demonstrate that they have developed an integrated and strategic approach to economic and social regeneration that is based on a sound understanding of the needs and aspirations of local communities.” Weblink:www.communities.gov.uk/pub/555/

Councils are encouraged to adopt the more inclusive term culture, rather than leisure in the strategic planning for regeneration. Culture includes: arts, media, sports, libraries, museums, parks, play, countryside, built heritage, tourism and the creative industries. Funding comes from a variety of sources – lottery, millennium, EU programme Single Regeneration Budget and DCMS. There are many opportunities for councils to create innovative funding packages to lever resources via culture.

RAISING THE PROFILE OF PROW/ACCESS WITHIN YOUR LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS (LSPs)

Local Strategic Partnerships are non-statutory, multi-agency partnerships, which match local authority boundaries. LSPs bring together at a local level the different parts of the public, private, community and voluntary sectors; allowing different initiatives and services to support one another so they can work together effectively. Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are an important initiative for LSPs which are instrumental in their development.

If you are not already engaged with your LSP then you need to work out a strategy that enables you to become engaged. This will involve understanding the linkages they have to your work area e.g. health, education, culture etc.

NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND

This is a non ring fenced grant available to England's most deprived local authorities to enable them with their Local Strategic Partnership to improve services.

- An allocation of £1.05 billion is available 2006/2008
- 86 local authorities are eligible for based on the more detailed and precise Indices of Deprivation 2004.
- From 2007/2008 NRF will operate in the context of Local Area Agreements.
- LAAs must include mandatory outcomes with a neighbourhood renewal focus

Further details from <http://www.neighbourhood.gov.uk>

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS

LAAs set out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government and a local area (the local authority and Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and other key partners at the local level). LAAs simplify some central funding, help join up public services more effectively and allow greater flexibility for local solutions to local circumstances. LAAs give an opportunity to deliver national outcomes in a way that reflects local priorities, particularly those identified in Community Strategies. Through these means LAAs are helping to devolve decision-making, move away from a “Whitehall knows best” philosophy and reduce bureaucracy.

The LAA will be the only context within which central government will agree targets with local government. Local Area Agreements are acting as catalysts for change, particularly in strengthening and improving partnership working. This will work best where authorities already have strong corporate support for transport and offers them the potential to deliver cross-service solutions. The role of formal assessment and reward funding associated with LTPs is likely to diminish under the move to LAAs.

2008 sees the launch of the LAA regime under which local authorities will monitor performance against 200 indicators and set targets for 35 of them. We are expecting an indicator that reflects the condition of the local environment and people’s satisfaction with it. This will be measured through a Citizen’s Perspective Survey providing both a baseline of environmental indicators and ongoing monitoring. Improvements to rights of way/access to the countryside could be one of these improvement targets/indicators and below are examples taken from 2nd round LAAs including reward targets

EXAMPLES

SW Region: (S Gloucestershire)

Indicator: Improve access to and increase the sustainable use of the local environment and open space for informal recreation. Learning and enjoyment for all”

W. Midlands (Herefordshire)

Indicator: Percentage of people who use parks, open spaces, play areas and other recreational facilities including public rights of way, country parks and commons and wider countryside at least once a month. (Outcome: enhance well being and community cohesion through engagement in cultural activities)

NE Region (Darlington)

Indicator: Area of publicly accessible quality countryside within easy reach of people’s homes (Outcomes: to have cleaner, safer and greener public places)

NW Region (Blackpool)

Indicator: number of people from reassurance areas involved in organised walks with green and coastal areas (Outcomes: to have cleaner, greener and safer public spaces)

Lincolnshire CC is at the early stages of implementing their ROWIP adopted in April 2007. One scheme has gained 25K from the Local Strategic Partnership to develop a “cultural tourism “trail linking Lincoln and Sleaford working with North Kesteven District Council. This includes funding for leaflet /website link and public art initiatives along the route.

S106 AGREEMENTS

Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 enables a planning authority and an applicant for planning permission to reach an agreement about various conditions as part of a development proposal. S 106 agreements provide an opportunity to improve access on or adjacent to development sites..

A great advantage of S106 funding is that it is considered as “clean” money able to be used for matched funding with government monies and together these can be match funded with European funds.

ROWIP schemes that are outside the direct effect of any development cannot be funded by S106 however. Further advice on the Planning Obligations Practice Guide is available via the Department for Communities and Local Government website at: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningobligationspractice>

EXAMPLE

Swindon BC example of developer contributions for off-site environmental gain- Great Western Community Forest. Set out in their Strategic Development Plan. Gt Western Community Forest administers money to deliver on biodiversity, access, landscape etc anywhere within the borough. In addition to on-site contributions. May be worth exploring with planning through the Local Development Framework process.

Department for Transport (DfT)

LOCAL TRANSPORT PLANS

You will already have worked with your LTP colleagues to influence content so that improvements to the rights of way network have a good chance of funding through the LTP. All Local Transport Plans contain four core objectives: to improve accessibility, road safety, congestion and quality of life and there are many opportunities for partnership working to improve access through this means.

EXAMPLES are numerous:

Durham CC – produced a flyer for all parish councils asking for ideas for path improvements that could be funded through the LTP process. They achieved success by emphasising the importance of rights of way as a mechanism for travel, not just for recreation and the ROWIP reaches out to other funders, partners for joint projects – tourism, sport, health, travel.

Cheshire CC has £275K over 5 years from the capital programme for PROW improvements and a Macclesfield area programme for quiet lanes/PROW improvements; Leicestershire has £560K over 5 years for asset management; Nottingham has £250K over 2 years for ROWIP implementation.

The Countryside Access team at Suffolk reviewed the criteria under each objective and identified potential links between their work on ROWIPs and the LTP. The objective that provided the best fit was “accessibility”.

The team worked closely with LTP colleagues to ensure thorough involvement in the LTP development, which included reviewing schemes that related to access to:

- schools,
- recreation,
- links between communities
- urban fringe.

The team took on responsibility for management of cycling on right of way which proved a positive trade-off with LTP colleagues. There was also a need to input into the LTP bidding process and a key success within that was the creation of “Local Indicator (LI) targets. The target was for “Usage of high priority rights of way routes in Suffolk- 10% increase in use on improved routes”. This ensured funding so the target could be successfully delivered.

- Year 1 the countryside access team received £200,000 for 14 schemes, seeing a significant increase in the use of the rights of way network.
- Current year 2, 22 schemes are being developed with a budget of £460,000
- Year 3 budget rising to £500,000.

HM Revenue and Customs

LANDFILL TAX CREDIT SCHEME

Through the landfill tax credit scheme, landfill operators can contribute 20% of their landfill tax liability to environmental bodies in return for a tax credit. The landfill tax credits can then be spent on a range of environmental and community projects amongst which is a category for “provision and maintenance of public amenities and parks”. Qualifying contributions under the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme may be held on charitable trusts, which means that an organisation set up to receive payments under the scheme may be charitable for approved objects.

www.charitycommission.gov.uk/supportcharities/ogs/g055b001.asp

Oxfordshire CC in partnership with a local charity, “Trust for Oxford shire’s Environment” (TOE) has set up such a scheme called “Places for People” to fund improvements to the rights of way network. The total amount available for 07/08 is £50,000. Any local group such as parish/ town councils can apply for a grant not normally more than £5000. Eligible projects include new circular routes, works to existing routes to make them more accessible to the less mobile and new routes that connect communities. They must meet the aims of the ROWIP.

Benefits:

- It promotes community ownership of projects because proposals are identified at grass routes level by the community, must demonstrate local commitment to complete work, ongoing maintenance and use some volunteering
- Administration burden and application handling is dealt with by the charity, calling on Oxfordshire CC’ staff resource only to assess schemes for ROWIP aims and award of grant
- Awards are small scale and represent quick wins

Department for Health

PRIMARY CARE TRUSTS

Partnership working with primary care trusts may help realise some implementation projects by linking into:

- Walking your Way to Health schemes
- Green exercise schemes
- Greenstart (outdoor activity for pre-school children with Surestart)
- Local school partnerships

EXAMPLES

Staffordshire where in 2006 five Walking your Way to Health groups were formed as part of a County-wide scheme to encourage everyone to use their public open space in and around their local area.

<http://www.whi.org.uk/details.asp?key=AX909|0|12186714065|R|18|2041141422006367980929>

In Sheffield where health walk leaders and training have been paid for by the primary care trust and equipment such as motor scooters to access green space.

LOTTERY FUNDING (HLF, BIG,)

A great advantage of Lottery funding is that it is considered as “clean” money able to be used for matched funding with government monies and together these can be match funded with European funds.

Heritage Lottery Fund (Parks for People, Landscape Partnerships, Heritage Grants, Your Heritage, Young Roots).

HLF funds heritage, NOT the general outdoors but there are hooks within heritage for ROWIP projects

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

This is a joint scheme between HLF and BIG providing £90m. Only suitable for ROW improvements where the ROW is within the park/greenspace or is integral to access to it from a target community.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/Parks+for+People>

LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

For schemes which provide long term social, economic and environmental benefits for rural areas by:

1. Conserving or restoring the built and natural features that create the historic character of the landscape
2. Conserving and celebrating the cultural associations and activities of the landscape area
3. Encouraging more people to access, learn about, become involved in and make decisions about their heritage
4. Improving understanding of local craft and other skills by providing training opportunities
 - Partnership led projects include local regional and national interests
 - Grants between £250,000 and £2mill
 - Partnership funding requirements:-
 - 10% for grants up to £1 million
 - 25% for grants over £1 million

EXAMPLE

The Medway Gap “Valley of Vision” bid for £1.8m, led by the Kent Downs AONB has been successful at Stage 1, involving detailed public consultation and involvement and will provide new celebration activities, record memories and conserve elements of the important industrial heritage, all including an access element and PROW. www.kentdowns.org.uk/hlf.html

HERITAGE GRANTS

Projects must either or both:

1. Conserve and enhance our diverse heritage
2. Encourage more people to be involved in their heritage

And

3. Make sure that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage

- Activity and/or capital projects
- Grant request over £50,000
- Partnership funding requirements
 - 10% for grants up to and over £1m
 - 25% for grants over £1m
- Single stage of Two stage process

EXAMPLE

Mosaic Partnership – a single stage grant of £660,000 for an activity project to make sure that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage of National Parks. [weblink:www.hlf.org.uk/English/GrantsDatabase](http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/GrantsDatabase)

YOUR HERITAGE

- Grants £5000-£50,000
- Projects with a heritage focus
- Decision in 3 months
- No minimum contribution requirement
- Any organisation can apply
- Payment of 50% of grant up front
- Learning and access

www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YourHeritage

YOUNG ROOTS

- Grants of £5,000 to £25,000
- Young people 13-20 years old
- Aimed at youth and community organisations
- Delivered through partnerships (youth and heritage partnerships)
- Decision in 3 months

EXAMPLE

“Wild about Lorton” is a successful bid by Dorset Wildlife Trust for £19K to develop a nature trail and provide a range of activities for young people at Lorton Meadows Nature Reserve.

www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots

Hints and tips

In all regions there is a HLF pre application advice service. This should be used to sound out the project and get a steer if only in outline before committing resources. Ensure the guidance notes and checklists are read thoroughly. HLF prefer officers who are going to be involved in the project to put the bid together rather than consultants. Up to 20% of HLF grant funds can be used for overheads so staff and office costs can be included in a bid.

Examples of what HLF doesn't fund:-

- Organisations without a constitution or a bank account
- Projects without a heritage focus and/or access and learning activities
- Work which is another agency's responsibility
- Core running costs or work that is part of core business and current staff
- Routine repairs and maintenance in public buildings and spaces
- General improvements to public areas (e.g. highways)

Common project pitfalls:-

- The project has no heritage focus
- No evidence of demand or support
- Insufficient access and learning plans and benefits
- Ownership of the heritage resource unclear
- High cost of maintaining project after completion
- Project starts before grant awarded
- Project too ambitious for the organisation

BIG LOTTERY FUND (Parks for People, Reaching Communities, Awards for All, Changing Spaces plus a number of schemes to be announced)

- Annual budget of £600 million
- BIG's remit covers health, education, outdoor recreation, environment
- No match funding requirements
- Some programmes still being agreed but will hopefully include Community Spaces and Access to Nature.

Hints and tips:

- Applications to BIG put together by consultants are judged more harshly than those by officers
- Outcomes based funding so important to emphasise the difference the project would make

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

A joint programme with HLF (see above)

REACHING COMMUNITIES

- Available to communities directly
- Minimum grant £10K, maximum £500K, will fund for up to 5years
- Can apply if a charity, community, voluntary or statutory body
- Funds :
 - physical improvements to local green spaces, country parks, allotments, footpaths and nature reserves;
 - access to natural environment through better information and signposting;
 - education projects which raise awareness of local environments and wider environmental issues

Hints and tips:

- A very popular and highly competitive programme. May well need to consider whether a project is not better suited to another programme.
- In essence it funds projects that respond to needs identified by communities and actively involves them.
- Wants project funding to bring the following changes:
 - people having better chances in life, including better access to training and development to improve their life skills
 - strong communities, more active citizens, working together to tackle problems
 - improved rural and urban environments which communities are better able to access and enjoy
 - healthier and more active people and communities.

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_reaching_communities.htm

AWARDS FOR ALL

- Easily accessible small grants programme from £300 -£10,000 for sport, education, environment and health in the local community
- Available to communities directly

EXAMPLE

The Tale Valley, E.Devon is a natural wetland but disabled people and families with pushchairs could not access the swampy areas. So the idea of a “Splashwalk” was formed and funded through “Awards for All”

http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/case_tale_valley_trust

FAIR SHARE TRUST

- £50 m targeted at 77 areas across the UK that have missed out in other lottery bids
- Grants from £5000 that improve liveability – including environment of communities

CHANGING SPACES

£100 million environment led programme focusing on three priorities:

- Community spaces
- Local community enterprise
- Access to the natural environment

The programme will be delivered in partnership – through organisations delivering large strategic portfolios and those delivering grant schemes on behalf of BIG

Two award partners have been announced – Groundwork UK and the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT). Further award partners to be announced. The overall aim of this programme is for:

- Improved local environments, open spaces and countryside, accessible to all and relevant to people’s needs
- A greater sense of community ownership of the local environment, better collaboration between communities and the voluntary and statutory sector
- Improved social, economic and environmental sustainability.

To achieve these aims the programme is focusing on three priority areas, two of which are directly relevant to rights of way:-

- **community spaces**
- local community enterprise
- **access to natural environment**

Projects this programme will support:

- Physical improvements to local green spaces, community gardens, allotments, footpaths and nature reserves
- Local food growing and retailing, farmers markets and composting

- Access to the natural environment through better information and signposting
- Educational projects which raise awareness of local environments and wider environmental issues

Award partners will launch their schemes early 2008. There will be considerable opportunity for individual projects to apply for funding.

Further details at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Natural England

AGGREGATES LEVY SUSTAINABILITY FUND: 2007/08

Administered by Natural England on behalf of Defra the ALSF Grant Scheme aims to support projects that reduce the effects of aggregate extraction on local communities and the natural environment. Grants can be awarded for access and informal recreation.

The budget for 2007/08 is £5 million, already allocated but it is hoped the scheme will continue.

Priorities for this year's scheme for access and informal recreation are to provide and improve people's access to the natural environment on or near sites affected by aggregates extraction that may fulfil objectives such as:

- Improvements to the utility of a site for the purpose of public health and well-being
- Provision/improvement of disabled access in line with recognised standards
- Delivery of the objectives of recognised strategies/plans/programmes
- Encouraging diverse access to, and enjoyment of, the outdoors

Projects typically include:

- Footpaths
- Multi-use paths
- Non-motorised links to other transport routes and trails
- Boardwalks, gates/stiles, bridges, steps/ramps, seating/benches
- Viewing platforms and associated equipment
- Signage including waymarkers, interpretation panels,
- Safety barriers (including fencing)
- Water transport on waterways. e.g. lakes for access, visitors, education
- Land purchase where there is no other method of securing a site for public use
- Sustainable plans for ongoing site management and/or improvement

The main criteria that needs to be fulfilled is the link with the effects of extraction eg. new route to separate people from quarry traffic, encouraging access to an old quarry site, restoring access lost through quarrying.

EXAMPLE

Stanwick Lakes in Northamptonshire was an active site until recently and is now a new country park. ASLF has given 3 grants to provide a basic infrastructure of paths around the site

AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEME ACCESS PAYMENTS

These are available to land managers under the higher level tier of the Environmental Stewardship Scheme (ESS) ESS is a whole farm conservation incentive scheme aimed at protecting and enhancing landscape, wildlife, historical and natural features. Payments for new permissive access are available, usually as part of a package of farm environmental improvements. At present the scheme is prioritising the conservation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest and although funding is available for new access this is more limited than it has been in the past.

Payments are available for permissive footpaths and bridleways, for open access, for routes for the disabled and for hosting school or group visits.

The scheme targets certain priority areas and does take full account of ROWIPs when deciding where to target new access locally. Access authorities should therefore speak to Natural England scheme advisers to ensure they are aware of your priorities. Scheme targets will also consider where people live, where they like to visit and where there is existing access. They will aim to provide new access to interesting features of the countryside and to provide links between existing routes, including PRowWs, CRowW open land and long distance routes including the coast.

In order to help with the implementation of a ROWIP it would be necessary for someone to persuade the land manager or managers along the route of a proposed new route to apply for ESS, to include an application for new permissive access and for that application to be accepted. This is only likely to happen if the farm has considerable wildlife interest that is under threat.

The payments available for new access are detailed in the scheme handbook. See:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/hls/handbook/default.htm>

and details of existing sites are available at:

<http://countrywalks.defra.gov.uk/>.

Agreements last ten years. They can be renewed after this time if deemed to have been successful (and providing the scheme is still in existence when they come due for renewal). They are not therefore a substitute for the creation of new permanent rights of way.

FORESTRY COMMISSION AND ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Do not underestimate opportunities for collaboration with FC and EA and pooled funding for projects. Access and recreation compete alongside environment, health, education and economic growth agendas for an ever- diminishing resource. However, rights of way improvements can do much to deliver for those agendas, providing high profile wins for both funders and their beneficiaries. The partnerships that these projects forge develop their own momentum and have the capacity to transform the role of rights of way improvements to improve community health, regeneration, green infrastructure and general community well-being.

The FC and EA often have adjacent landholdings and assets with local authority and other landowners. In these situations there is much to be gained by projects that pool resources to develop a joint “offer” that brings greater focus to rights of way improvement projects.

SPONSORSHIP AND LOCAL CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Some larger companies offer community grant schemes to groups undertaking environmental or sustainability work as part of their community development strategy or distribute grants through a third party :

- Supergrounds scheme (Royal Bank of Scotland and NatWest with Learning Through Landscapes)
- Tesco charitable trust community awards (Tesco)
- You can do it community awards (B&Q)

FunderFinder is a charity producing software for grant seekers specialising in information and advice about charitable trusts and foundations. Payment may be necessary for software that includes a directory of local charities funding community groups or voluntary organisations. However it is often available in public libraries.

Further information is at www.funderfinder.org.uk

3. Other resources that help deliver ROWIP implementation

The new voluntary dedication power in the Commons Act 2006

(info to be added following confirmation with Defra advice)

ROWIP CALL-OFF CONTRACT

NE has currently suspended the grant aid scheme to LHAs, previously given by the Countryside Agency and it is unclear whether it will be reinstated. However, we are just letting a contract to provide targeted and relevant training and support to local authority officers and local access forums on the implementation of Rights of Way Improvement Plans and conduct an evaluation of ROWIPs. The training part of the contract will:

- Run relevant, facilitated regional workshops on particular issues, all illustrated with case studies and examples of good practice e.g. local area agreements; funding opportunities with input from regional funding specialists; the health agenda; defining standards of network adequacy; quality control measures for LAFs; difficult issues such as multi-purpose vehicles; monitoring by LAFs on issues such as under-use of ROW; the Defra Diversity Review “Outdoors for All”
- Bring together relevant NE staff, LAF, HA, ROW staff, HLS access leads and County Sports Partnerships to work together on landowner cross-compliance, LAAs and recreation.
- Training events run jointly with government office, DfT and Defra staff on LTP integration, LAAs, transport asset management plans and accessibility strategies.
- LAF “empowering training events, pursuant to S94.4 of CROW Act 2000

The ROWIP evaluation part will:

- evaluate and inform NE on the ROWIP development process and implementation in England;
- advise NE of lessons learnt through the ROWIP process;
- pull together a national and regional assessments of final ROWIPs;
- Identify and develop further advice with NE to share with Highway Authorities and other partners in the future.

Some concluding thoughts

- Unlikely that Natural England will award grants for PROW in the same way that the Countryside Agency was able to do in the past. Has this stopped you getting started on implementation schemes or does it help you forge more sustainable local partnerships for funding schemes.- we will welcome your views of this and any other points you wish to raise?

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September 2007

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Funding Rights of Way Improvement Plans



Presentation to the Institute of Public Rights of
Way Management Conference
24th September 2007

Lucy Heath and Jane Yates
Health and Recreation Policy
Natural England



“Whatever you do now in rights of way, its about looking wider than the line on the ground. You must develop linkage between other strategies and policies to effectively develop the funding”

Peter Tilley, Suffolk County Council.

Setting the Scene

- A work in progress
- Collating and sharing information about funding and other resources that deliver ROWIP implementation
 - From the network of access providers
 - From partners
 - From the funders
 - From those delivering ROWIP implementation
 - From supporters and volunteers
- Not planning a bank raid
- Aim to build on this and share it through the GPG and LAF Information Pack (see supporting paper)

The Implementation Process

- Starts with the ROWIP
- Prioritisation within the Action Plan
 - What did you say you would deliver?
 - When by?
 - Who with?
 - How?
- Project preparation and planning
 - Options appraisal
 - Project development plan
 - Securing resources
 - Delivery
 - Monitoring and review
- Realism

Community
and
Stakeholder
engagement
and
participation



Other considerations



- Learn how to work effectively with communities and politicians to make a case for ROW
- Be on track with latest government agenda on local decision making and empowerment
- Consider all funding models and examples of successful schemes
- Consider how ROW can be prioritised within other strategic documents other than the ROWIP and also within Local Area Agreements (LAAs)
- Know your funders and build up a good working relationship

Potential ROWIP Funding Sources

- European
- UK
 - Government
 - Lottery
 - NGOs



EU PROGRAMMES



- EAFRD-European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
- ERDF- European Regional Development Fund
- LIFE+

All are applicable to the whole of the UK – a marked change in policy to Objective 1 and 2 funding

EAFRD

- Aim is diversification of rural economies
- Focus on environmental activities
- Budget £3.9 bn
- Based on Rural Development Programme structured around 3 themes
- Regional Implementation Plans (RIPs) - strong opportunities for appropriate outdoor recreation- eligibility for ROW will depend on contents of each plan.
- Opportunities to influence RDAs on how to operate this funding as at an early stage.

ERDF

- Less money, spread more thinly
- Tendency not to fund under ERDF if funding possible under EAFRD
- At least two-thirds of any award must be spent on a limited range of employment actions:
 - promoting innovation and knowledge transfer
 - stimulating enterprise and supporting successful businesses
 - ensuring sustainable development, production and consumption
 - building sustainable communities

ERDF -EXAMPLE



- Suffolk CC awarded £80,200 + additional funding from other sources for the creation of "Discover Suffolk" website.
- Helped deliver a number of targets in ROWIP
- Provides opportunities for rural enterprises to promote themselves
- Promotes circular and long distance routes as well as PROW improvements and transport links
www.discoversuffolk.org.uk

LIFE+

- Popular well established EU programme
- 3 key strands:
 - nature and biodiversity
 - implementation and governance
 - information and communication
- Budget E70m for first 4 years
- UK co-ordinating body to be appointed
- 1st calls – late 2007

EXAMPLE – Parrett Trail , S Somerset. A 42 mile footpath route <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life>

Hints and Tips on EU Funding



- Talk to colleagues who have had success
- EU looks at track record of organisations, uses a scoring system for assessment
- If an application is not successful, no funding for feasibility studies
- If successful, the EU will cover costs of prior meetings and studies

UK PROGRAMMES

Government

- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)
- Department for Transport
- HM Revenue and Customs
- Department for Health



Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG)



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING PILOTS

- Local decision making; funds in the hands of those who benefit from it-10 urban pilots announced in July 07:
Includes directing resources at:
 - Providing new play areas, greening public spaces, and **improving the local environment**
 - **Calming traffic to improve road safety**
- Also £400,000 project funding in 20 areas in line with Quirk Review www.communities.gov.uk/pub/517

DCLG (cont) USING “CULTURE” AS A DRIVER FOR ACCESSING FUNDS



- “Regeneration Through Culture, Sport and Tourism”. ODPM report 2006
www.communities.gov.uk/pb/555/
- Councils encouraged to adopt inclusive term “culture”. Includes: arts, media, sports, libraries, museums, parks, play, countryside, built heritage, tourism, creative industries.
- Funding from lottery, EU DCMS
- There are many opportunities for councils to create innovative funding packages to lever resources via culture

EXAMPLE: Cheshire CC Rural tourism Initiative

- Improvement of riding route “The Bishop Bennet Way”
- Partnership with CREATE Rural Tourism initiative (funded by Visit Chester and Cheshire and the Rural Enterprise Gateway)

RAISING THE PROFILE OF PROW/ACCESS WITHIN YOUR LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS (LSPs)



- LSPs bring together at a local level the different parts of the public, private, community and voluntary sectors
- Allows different initiatives and services to support each other
- LSPs instrumental in Local Area Agreements (LAAs)

Hints and tips- work out a strategy to engage with LSP including an understanding of linkages to your work e.g. health, education, culture

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS



- Set out priorities for a local area agreed between central government and a local area (LA+LSP+key local partners)
- Simplify central funding, help join up public services more effectively, allow greater flexibility for local solutions
- Deliver national outcomes that reflect local priorities, particularly Community Strategies.
- Help to devolve decision-making, reduce bureaucracy and “Whitehall knows best” philosophy
- LAAs only context within which central government will agree targets with local government.

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS (cont)



2008 launch of LAA regime:

- LAs will monitor performance against 200 indicators, and set targets for 35 of them
- an indicator will reflect the condition of the local environment and people's satisfaction
- measured through a Citizen's Perspective Survey providing baseline environmental indicators and ongoing monitoring
- Improvements to PROW could be one of these improvement targets/indicators

LAA EXAMPLE INDICATORS



- **S. Gloucestershire (SW) Indicator:** Improve access to and increase the sustainable use of the local environment and open space for informal recreation. Learning and enjoyment for all.
- **Herefordshire (WM) Indicator:** Percentage of people who use parks, open spaces, play areas, other recreational facilities e.g. PROW, country parks, commons, wider countryside at least once a month. **Outcome:** enhance well-being and community cohesion through engagement in cultural activities
- **Darlington (NE) Indicator:** Area of publicly accessible quality countryside within easy reach of people's homes. **Outcome:** to have cleaner, greener and safer public spaces

S106 AGREEMENTS



- S106 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 agreements between a LA and developer can provide an opportunity to improve access on or adjacent to development sites
- “Clean” money; able to be used for match funding with government monies and together these can be match funded with European funds
- ROWIP schemes that are outside the direct effect of any development cannot be funded by S106.
- Planning Obligations Practice Guide:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningobligationspractice>

DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT (DfT)



LOCAL TRANSPORT PLANS

- Working with LTP colleagues to influence content and enable PROW good chance of LTP funding
- Many opportunities to improve access through the LTP four core objectives: improve accessibility, road safety, congestion and quality of life

EXAMPLE:

- Cheshire CC £275K over 5 years from capital programme for PROW improvements and Macclesfield quiet lanes/PROW improvements
- Leicestershire £560K over 5 years for asset management
- Nottinghamshire £250K over 2 years for ROWIP implementation
- Suffolk CC access team worked closely with LTP colleagues £1.16million over 3 years

HM REVENUE AND CUSTOMS

LANDFILL TAX CREDIT SCHEME

- Landfill operators can contribute 20% of their landfill tax liability to environmental bodies in return for a tax credit
- The credits can be spent on a range of environmental and community projects under category “provision and maintenance of public amenities and parks”
- Qualifying contributions may be held on charitable trusts www.charitycommission.gov.uk/supportcharities/ogs/g055b001.asp

EXAMPLE – Oxfordshire County Council

- “Places for People” joint scheme with local charity TOE (Trust for Oxfordshire’s Environment)



DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH



PRIMARY CARE TRUSTS

- Partnership working may help realise some ROWIP implementation projects linking into:
 - Walking your Way to Health schemes
 - Green exercise schemes
 - Greenstart (outdoor activity for pre-school children with Surestart)
 - Local school partnerships

EXAMPLES:

- Staffordshire 5 WWH groups formed in 2006
<http://www.whi.org.uk/details>
- Sheffield Health Walk leaders, training, motor scooters to access green space have been paid for by Primary Care Trust

LOTTERY (HLF, BIG)



Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)

(Parks for People, Landscape Partnerships, Heritage grants, Your Heritage, Young Roots)

- HLF funds heritage, NOT the general outdoors but there are hooks within heritage for ROWIP projects
- “Clean” money for match funding as with all lottery funds

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

- Joint scheme with BIG £90m. Only suitable where the ROW is within the park/green space or is integral to access to it from a target community

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/Parks+for+People>

HLF



LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

For schemes which provide long term social, economic and environmental benefits for rural areas by:

- Conserving/restoring built and natural features that create the historic character of the landscape
- Conserving/celebrating cultural associations and activities of the landscape
- Encouraging more people to access, learn about, become involved in and make decisions about their heritage
- Improving understanding of local craft and other skills by providing training opportunities

HLF

LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP (contd)

- Partnership led projects include regional and national interests
- Grants between £250K and £2m
- Partnership funding requirements:-
 - 10% for grants up to £1m
 - 25% for grants over £1m

EXAMPLE

- The Medway Gap “Valley of Vision” bid for £1.8m, led by the Kent Downs AONB
 - will provide new celebration activities, record memories, conserve industrial heritage **all including access and rights of way improvements**

www.kentdowns.org.uk/hlf.html



HLF

(contd)



HERITAGE GRANTS

Projects must either or both:

- Conserve and enhance our diverse heritage
- Encourage more people to be involved in their heritage

AND

- Make sure that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage
 - Activity and/or capital projects
 - Grant request over £50,000

Partnership funding requirements:

- 10% for grants up to and over £1m
- 25% for grants over £1m

EXAMPLE- Mosaic Partnership £660,000

www.hlf.org.uk/English/GrantsDatabase

HLF YOUR HERITAGE

(contd)

- Grants £5K-£50K
- Heritage focus
- Decision in 3 months
- No minimum contribution requirement
- Any organisation can apply
- Payment of 50% of grant up front
- Learning and access

www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YourHeritage



HLF YOUNG ROOTS

(contd)

- Grants £5K-£25K
- Young people aged 13-20
- Aimed at youth and community organisations
- Delivered through partnerships (youth and heritage)
- Decision in 3 months

EXAMPLE

“Wild about Lorton” successful bid by Dorset Wildlife Trust for £19K to develop nature trail and activities for young people at Lorton Meadows Nature Reserve

www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots



HLF HINTS AND TIPS

(contd)

- Use regional HLF advice service
- HLF prefers officers who are going to be involved in the project to put the bid together rather than consultants
- Up to 20% HLF grant finds can be used for overheads so staff and office costs can be included in a bid

EXAMPLES of what HLF **doesn't** fund:-

- Organisations without a constitution or bank account
- Projects without a heritage focus and/or access and learning activities
- Work which is another agency's responsibility



HLF HINTS AND TIPS

(contd)

- Core running costs or core business and current staff
- Routine repairs and maintenance
- General improvements to public areas (e.g. highways)
- Examples of common pitfalls include:
 - Insufficient access and learning plans and benefits
 - Ownership of the heritage resource unclear
 - High cost maintenance after completion
 - Project too ambitious for the organisation



BIG LOTTERY FUND (Parks for People, Reaching Communities, Awards for All)



- Annual budget of £600m
- BIG's remit covers health, education, outdoor recreation, environment
- No match funding requirements
- Some programmes still in development - Community Spaces, Access to Nature

Hints and Tips:-

- Applications to BIG by consultants judged more harshly than by officers
- Outcomes based funding so important to emphasise the differences the project would make

BIG

PARKS FOR PEOPLE – joint with HLF

REACHING COMMUNITIES

- Available to communities directly
- Grants £10K to £500K for up to 5 years
- Can apply if a charity, community, voluntary or statutory body
- Funds:-
 - physical improvements to local green space, country parks, allotments, footpaths, nature reserves
 - access to natural environment through better information and signposting
 - education projects which raise awareness of local environments, wider environmental issues



BIG

REACHING COMMUNITIES (cont)

Hints and Tips:-

- Popular, highly competitive programme.
- Funds projects that respond to needs identified by communities and actively involves them
- Wants project funding to bring the following changes:
 - better chances in life, better access to training and development to improve life skills
 - strong communities, more active citizens
 - improved rural and urban environments that communities are better able to access and enjoy
 - healthier, more active people/communities

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_reaching_communities.htm



BIG

AWARDS FOR ALL

- Easily accessible small grants programme from £300-£10K for sport, education, environment, and health in the local community
- Available to communities directly

EXAMPLE

- The Tale Valley, E. Devon – natural wetland. “Splashwalk” created for disabled and families with pushchairs to access swampy areas

http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/case_tale_valley_trust



NATURAL ENGLAND



AGGREGATES LEVY SUSTAINABILITY FUND (ALSF)

- Support projects that reduce effects of aggregate extraction
- Grants for access and informal recreation
- Budget for 2007/08 £5m – already allocated but hope to continue in future
- Project objectives this year include:
 - improvements to the utility of a site for public health/well-being
 - provision/improvement of disabled access
 - delivery of objectives in recognised plans/programmes
 - encouraging diverse access to and enjoyment of the outdoors

NATURAL ENGLAND ALSF (cont)



Projects typically include:

- Footpaths and multi-use paths
- Non-motorised links to other transport routes and trails
- Boardwalks, gates/stile, bridges, steps/ramps, seating/benches
- Viewing platforms, signage, interpretation, safety barriers
- Water transport for access
- Sustainable plans for ongoing site management

EXAMPLE – Stanwick Lakes Northamptonshire - a new country park

NATURAL ENGLAND (Contd)

AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEME ACCESS PAYMENTS



- Available under higher level tier Environmental Stewardship Scheme (ESS)
- For new permissive access – priorities currently SSSIs
- Payments for permissive paths, bridleways, open access, routes for disabled, hosting school/group visits
- Takes account of ROWIPs in deciding where to target new access
- Talk to NE scheme advisors to ensure they are aware of your ROWIP priorities
- Scheme targets will consider where people live, where they like to visit, where there is existing access.
- 10 year agreement and can be renewed
- Not a substitute for the creation of new permanent rights of way

<http://defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/his/handbook/default.htm>

<http://countrywalks.defra.gov.uk/>

FORESTRY COMMISSION AND ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



- Opportunities for collaboration with FC and EA and pooled funding for projects
- FC and EA often have adjacent landholdings and assets with local authority and other landowners
- Pooled resources can develop a joint “offer” that brings greater focus to rights of way improvement projects

More research needed on opportunities with these partners

SPONSORSHIP AND LOCAL CHARITABLE TRUSTS



- Some larger companies offer community grant schemes to groups undertaking environmental or sustainability work as part of their community strategy
- Alternatively distribute grants through a third party:
 - Supergrounds (Royal Bank of Scotland and NatWest with Learning Through Landscapes)
 - Tesco charitable trust community awards (Tesco)
 - You can do it community awards (B&Q)

Other Resources for ROWIP Implementation



- It's not just about money
- Look at your own resource base and consider your options, e.g. Internal/external staff secondment to project development, selling your project to partners to lead on
- Other processes that might contribute:
 - Dedication – Commons Act and CROW Open Access
 - DLW in the long term
- Natural England ongoing support
 - Facilitation of networking and training opportunities for LHA staff and LAF members
 - ROWIP monitoring and evaluation
 - Advocacy and influencing role

For further information please contact me at:

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Report of Director of Neighborhoods and Housing

To Director of City Services and the Director of Development

Date: 5th February 2008

Subject: Gating Order – Wellington Mount / Wellington Terrace

Electoral Wards Affected:

Bramley and Stanningley

Specific Implications For:

- Equality and Diversity
- Community Cohesion
- Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Executive Summary

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing is promoting the installation of gates across two footpaths / ginnels in the Wellingtons area of the Bramley and Stanningley Ward to temporarily close the highway due to high levels of crime. The proposal has the support of the community and all relevant bodies. This report seeks the approval of the Director of City Services to initiate the legal process for the highway closure.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek authority to temporarily close two adopted highways. These highways are narrow footpaths with one linking the top of Wellington Mount with the top of Wellington Terrace and the other linking the top of Wellington Terrace with Wellington Grove. Both these footpaths are in the Bramley and Stanningley Ward.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 Section 129A to 129G of the Highways Act allows for the making of a gating order to temporary close a highway in response to high levels of anti-social behavior **and crime**. The legal provision came into effect on 1st April 2006. The adopted status of the highway is unchanged by the order.

2.2 These paths leading from Wellington Mount to Wellington Terrace and from Wellington Terrace through to Wellington Grove have been the focus for anti-social behavior (ASB) and crime for a number of years, becoming increasingly worse in recent years. The area is a quiet residential area with a very stable population.

There are 648 households with 1405 residents in the Wellington Super Output Area. The crime domain at 1149 is ranked in the worst 5 percent in England.

- 2.3 Residents have voiced their concerns and anger over the rise in crime and ASB to West Yorkshire Police, Elected Members and council officers. Many of the residents have been victims of crime and criminal damage where offenders have used the two paths as a place to commit crime and anti-social behaviour and to make good their escape from the Police. Residents living in the gable end properties adjacent to each of these paths have suffered particularly badly with one of the residents being subjected to an assault and one of the properties suffering from fire damage to the side wall.
- 2.4 Leeds City Council's Neighbourhoods and Housing Department – Community Safety, and Area Management - received emails and phone calls from residents demanding action to address the issues. Meetings with individuals have taken place to ascertain the extent of public feeling regarding gating the footpaths to restrict access. The majority of those who were spoken to on site or who have contacted the council by other means, such as email or phone, were in favour of gating the highways. A preliminary consultation was carried out with local residents living in and around the Wellingtons and the results were overwhelmingly in favour of gating (see appendix 2).
- 2.5 Wellington Mount to Wellington Terrace – This adopted footpath runs at the side of 34 Wellington Mount and 35 Wellington Terrace and is served by one street lamp which is operational. The path is relatively well maintained and in good condition.
- 2.6 Wellington Terrace to Wellington Grove – This is also an adopted footpath and runs at the side of 36 Wellington Terrace and 35 Wellington Grove. This path is also served by one street lamp which has been vandalized to a point where it no longer operates correctly. The path itself is well maintained and has now signs of littering.
- 2.7 Both these narrow paths are well covered; firstly by the gable end walls on one side and secondly by thick shrubbery that grows on the embankment at the other side. This shrubbery has lent itself to many reported incidents over recent years as it provides suitable coverage to offenders. There have been several incidents concerning the dumping of litter and bulky items on these embankments and on one occasion, a dumped armchair was set on fire.
- 2.8 There have been many reports by local residents of youth congregation on the paths and this has led to the occurrence of several incidents of anti social behaviour, incorporating criminal damage, nuisance, underage drinking and vandalism.
- 2.9 Much of the recorded crime for the area is focused within the streets served by the two footpaths. Incidents include vehicle crime (theft from motor vehicle and damage to motor vehicle), theft (other), burglary dwelling, assault, damage to dwelling, arson and several incidents of ASB including loutish behaviour, intimidation and general nuisance. In many cases residents report that the paths are used as means for offenders to access and egress these streets. In one incident of domestic burglary, stolen property was recovered by a complainant in the path at the end of Wellington Mount. This shows that the paths are used as a means to make good an escape from the estate. It can also be argued that the presence of these paths makes the streets just off them more attractive to the would-be criminal as they allow quick access into the neighbouring St.Catherine's estate at the other side of Wellington Grove. By restricting access to these paths just to the two gable end properties siding onto each path, it would ensure that the attractiveness of being able to use them for quick escape, and/or congregation would be removed. Restriction of these paths would also make Policing of this estate much easier as offenders would have to use the main road (Broad Lane page 94 Wellington Grove) as an alternative means

of escape. These roads are in view of the public and provide little opportunity for escaping attention.

- 2.10 These paths have been the subject of much trouble for the last couple of years and increased Police patrols have taken place in the area to try and reduce the problems occurring there. Neighbourhood Wardens and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) have been deployed in the area to provide back up cover when police patrols are not possible. Crime Reduction leaflets have been delivered to properties in the area and advice from Wardens and the PCSO's has been given to residents who have experienced problems.
- 2.11 Over the last 2 years, complainants have been visited by various agencies, including West Yorkshire Police and Leeds City Council, in order to obtain information about offenders. Unfortunately the Police report that many residents questioned are unable to identify the offenders and report that offenders come from outside the Wellington estate to commit crime there. They are then often seen using the footpaths in question as their means of escape from the estate.
- 2.12 As complaints have increased in the area, West Yorkshire Police have had to deploy a CCTV van into the area to try to catch some of the offenders on film. Unfortunately this facility is not available for long periods and it has been unsuccessful in capturing any of the trouble occurring in the Wellingtons and/ or by the footpaths.
- 2.13 The effects of making the order for properties adjoining or adjacent to the footpaths subject to the gating would be positive. All residents and owners of property in the area were contacted as part of the consultation and the majority was in agreement that gating these footpaths would improve their quality of life and reduce crime and ASB.
- 2.14 The concerns of the residents are supported by the crime statistics (see appendix 1 'Wellington Analysis: Area of Study'). Over the last two years during the period 19/02/05 to 18/02/07, total crime for Wellington Mount / Terrace / Grove was 65 offences. This works out at 1.5% of the total crime for the police beat that covers this area (total crime for Beat 6 for this period was 4245 offences). It also accounts for just over 1% of the total recorded crime for the Bramley and Stanningley ward over the same period (total recorded crime for period by ward was 6272 crimes).
- 2.15 Certainly the number of recorded criminal damage incidents in the area supports the resident feedback information which identifies that many residents in the locality have suffered from incidents of criminal damage and vehicle damage.
- 2.16 What is also evident is that many incidents are not reported by residents for one reason or another and thus a true reflection of the problems occurring at the Wellingtons is difficult to obtain. This may explain why the number of reported incidences in the locality falls slightly lower than the Leeds District average (Are rate of 69.4 incidences per 1000 population / household compared to 71.2 incidences per 1000 across the Leeds District). What is clear is that these footpaths may not be the actual location for the problems occurring here but they ARE the source by which crime and ASB in the area is aided.
- 2.17 A planning application to gate these footpaths was submitted on November 2007. A decision is expected by 15th January 2008 (Planning Application no.P/07/07235/LA/W).

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Design Proposals / Scheme Description

- 3.1.1 The alternative solutions considered for addressing the crime and anti-social behavior occurring within close proximity to these paths have not resolved the situation and are not sustainable. It is now proposed to temporarily close these paths by means of a gating order with a view to stopping the antisocial behaviour and crime which is believed to be associated with the footpaths.
- 3.1.2 Self locking gates no higher than 2.3m with matching fencing in galvanized powder coated steel will be installed at both ends of both footpaths to prevent access to the paths for those not living in the immediate vicinity.
- 3.1.3 The gates will be locked 24 hours a day. Residents living in the four gable-end properties that adjoin these paths will be offered a key if they so wish so that access can be gained to the side of their properties. These keys will be available from Neighbourhoods' and Housing's Community Safety Service. The gate locks will be numbered in accordance with the master key system devised by LCC Community Safety. Emergency and other services will be provided with keys on request. Any council departments requiring access to the paths will also be able to request keys for the gates.
- 3.1.4 Community Safety will carry out future maintenance of the gates. A commuted sum has been provided for this purpose.
- 3.1.5 Leeds City Council is required to keep a Register of all Gating Orders, to be available to the public and reviewed annually to determine whether the gating measures are still required. The Alleygating Coordinator at Leeds Community Safety will carry out the annual review for these gates.

3.2 Consultations

- 3.2.1 Ward Members: Ward members have been extremely vocal in their support for alleygating to the Wellingtons and they have no objections to the proposals.
- 3.2.2 Residents: In September 2007 pre-consultation took place with local residents living adjacent or adjoining the two footpaths in question.
- 3.2.3 Police: NE Leeds Police Division has implemented various strategies to address the problems in this area through the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). When complaints were first received by the police from members of the public living near the ginnel areas, PCSOs were deployed both on foot and bike patrols. As the situation escalated with the suspicion that Class A drugs were being sold and used in the areas concerned, NPT Police Officers were also deployed into the areas. Several arrests were made in addition to numerous stop checks, however the groups were not moving away. An ASB operation was implemented in the area by PCSOs and Police Officers to gather names and details of youths congregating for the purpose of issuing ASB warnings and in some cases applying for full ASBO. This was carried out in partnership with LCC ASBU and to some extent has split the groups up. However due to the proximity of the ginnels to private dwelling houses crimes still occur in the areas of the ginnels. Despite using various tactics such as varying patrols, developing neighbourhood watch schemes, involving other agencies to work with young people, the problems continue due to the ginnels being in the place they are.
- 3.2.4 Community Safety: Neighbourhoods and Housing – Community Safety section is satisfied that the crime element is sufficient to apply for a Gating Order.
- 3.2.5 Highways: Development Department and City Services have both been consulted and have no objections to the proposals. Highways users will need to take alternative routes which will incur short detours however this inconvenience has to

be placed in context of the community safety situation. An alternative route from Wellington Mount through to Wellington Terrace would be to use Broad Lane adjacent to the bottom of Wellington Mount. In theory the only residents that this detour affects are those living near and at the top of Wellington Mount. Using Broad Lane is a sensible and reasonable alternative route as it would only add approximately a minute to the journey. An alternative route from Wellington Terrace to Wellington Grove also exists via Broad Lane and again, dependant on where the resident lives, the estimated addition to this alternate route would be approximately 1 minute.

- 3.2.6 Rights of Way: Learning and Leisure Department has been consulted and have no objections to the proposals.
- 3.2.7 Utilities: Utility and other service providers were contacted in November 2007 regarding the proposed gating scheme. No objections were received.
- 3.2.8 [Emergencies Services: The Fire, Health and Police Authorities were contacted in November 2007 regarding the proposed gating scheme. No objections were received.](#)
- 3.2.9 Whitecote Primary School: Head Teacher at Whitecote Primary School supports the gating of these paths. Recreation land belonging to the school backs onto both these paths.
- 3.2.10 Prescribed Organisations, Local Footpath User Groups and Local Access Forum: Consultation has taken place with these organisations. [XXXXXX need to include outcome of LLAF meeting. None of the others have objected.](#)

3.3 Gating Order Publicity

- 3.3.1 Home Office Guidance regarding publicity relating to the making of Gating Order will be followed.

3.4 Implications for Highways Users

- 3.4.1 The implications for highways users is that there will be a loss of amenity so non-resident users will have to take alternative routes that will incur short detours, referred to in 3.2.5 above. It is unlikely that those who had used the footpaths as a short cut will resort to having to use vehicles if the amenity is lost.

Programme

- 3.5.1 It is anticipated that subject to approval these proposals will [be implemented in April 2008.](#)

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 The proposals contained in this report comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and help to contribute to the safety and well being of the people in the community.

5.0 Health Impact

- 5.1 It is not anticipated that there would be an adverse impact on the health of the users if the amenity was lost as the proposed alternative routes will add very little to journey times and the alternatives are safe pedestrian routes. This meets Leeds Travelwise policy of discouraging private car use and promoting walking to school.

6.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 6.1 Leeds Community Safety will fund 50% of the costs with match funding secured from West Leeds Area Committee for installation and maintenance of the gates and fencing, all legal and administration costs and provision of keys.
- 6.2 Funding does not cover support for a Public Inquiry. This will only be required if there are overwhelming objections to the Gating Orders and in such unlikely circumstances, the continued promotion of the scheme will be reviewed.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 Despite a range of initiatives being implemented in the problem areas, the issues still persist when there is not a uniformed presence in the area. It is unsustainable to deploy council or police officers to this area on a permanent basis. It is clear that a physical barrier would prevent anti-social or criminal elements that do not live in the vicinity, from entering the footpaths.

8.0 Recommendations

DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

- 8.1 The Director is requested to:
- i) approve the gating of two footpaths leading from Wellington Mount to Wellington Terrace, and from Wellington Terrace to Wellington Grove in accordance with the attached drawing in accordance with Section 129A of the highways Act 1980;
 - ii) request the Director of Legal and Democratic Services to advertise the notices of intention to make Gating Orders and, in the event that no objections are received, for the Orders to be made and brought into operation.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

- 8.2 The Director is requested to note the content of this report.



MINUTE SHEET

Date: 21 December 2007

Ref:

To: **Brent Brady**

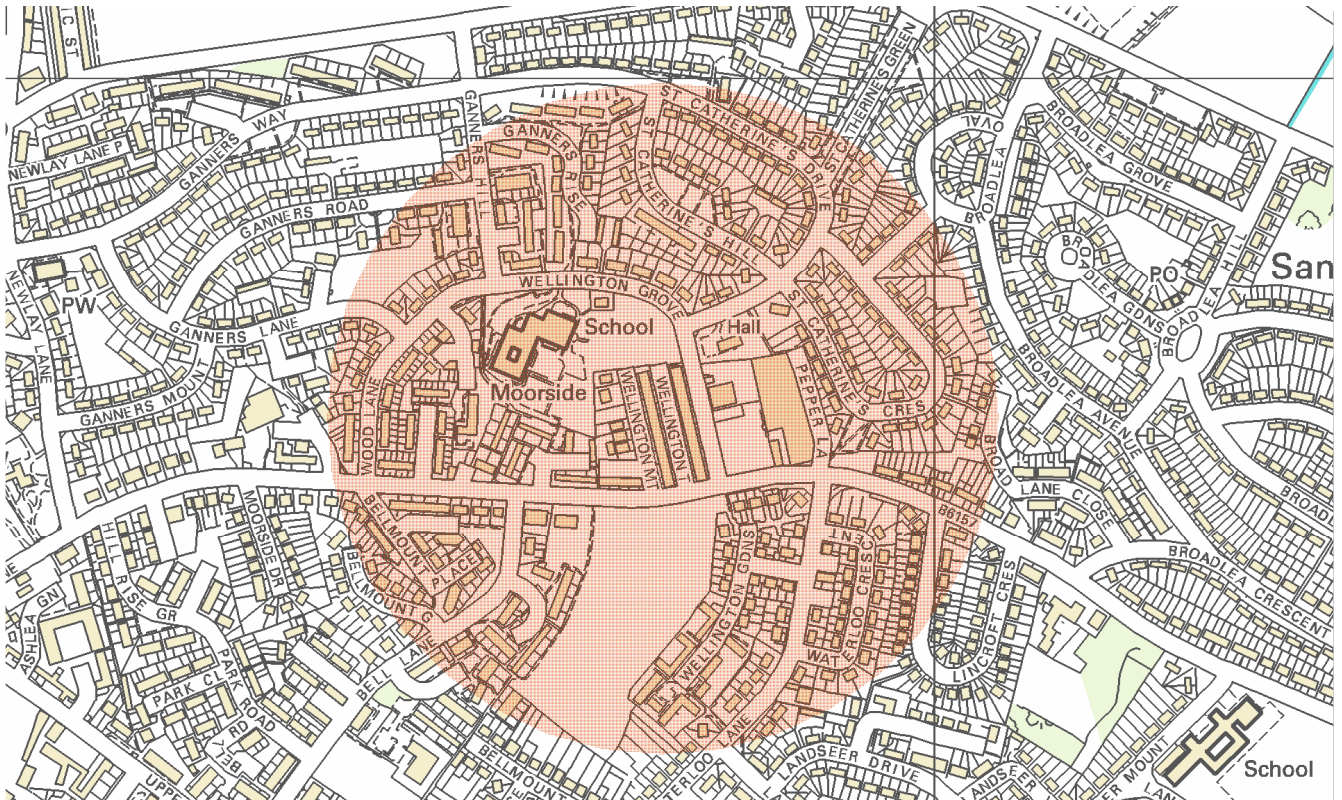
From: GIS Manager Malachi Rangelcroft, Performance Review, Corporate Review.

☎ 01924 292 093

Subject: **Wellington Terrace – Crime & Incident Analysis**

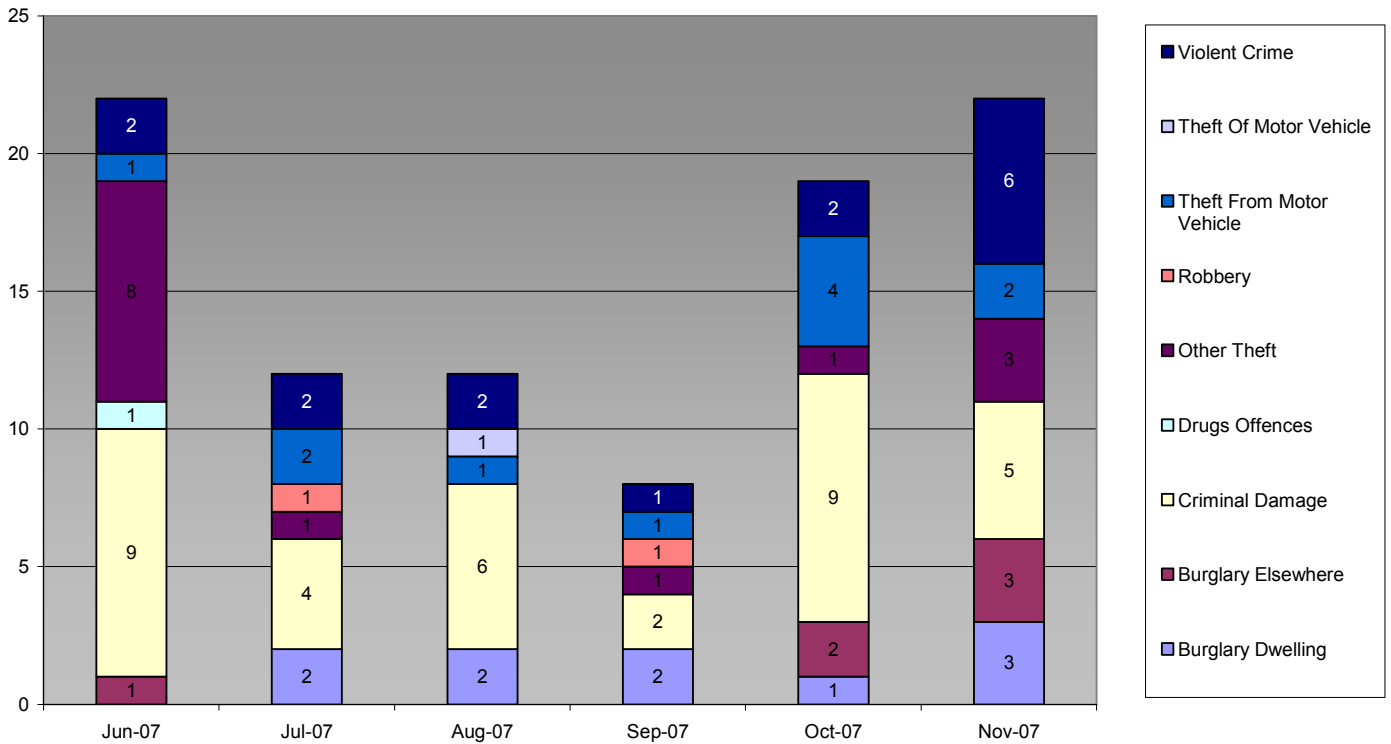
Crime Area of Study:	Wellington Terrace and 300m radius
Date Period:	Jun07 – Nov07 (Crime) Sep07 – Nov07 (Incidents)
Data Type:	Recorded Crime Data & Recorded Incidents

Wellington Analysis: Area of Study

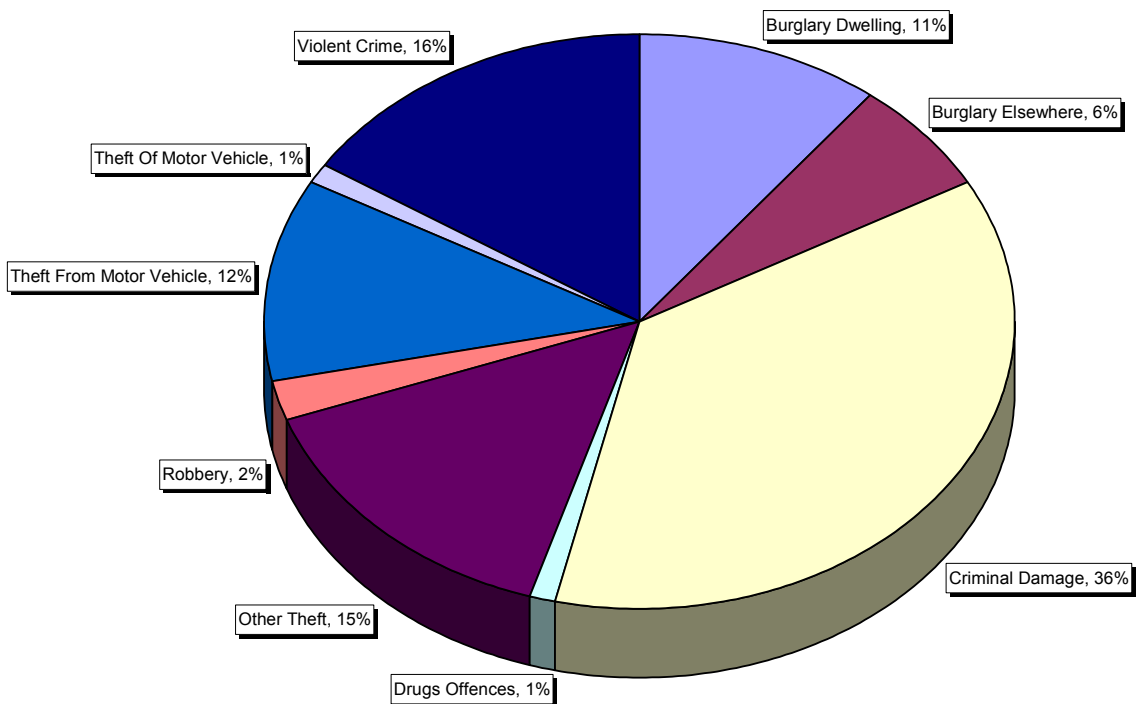


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Crime by Month



Type of Crime (Jun-Nov07)

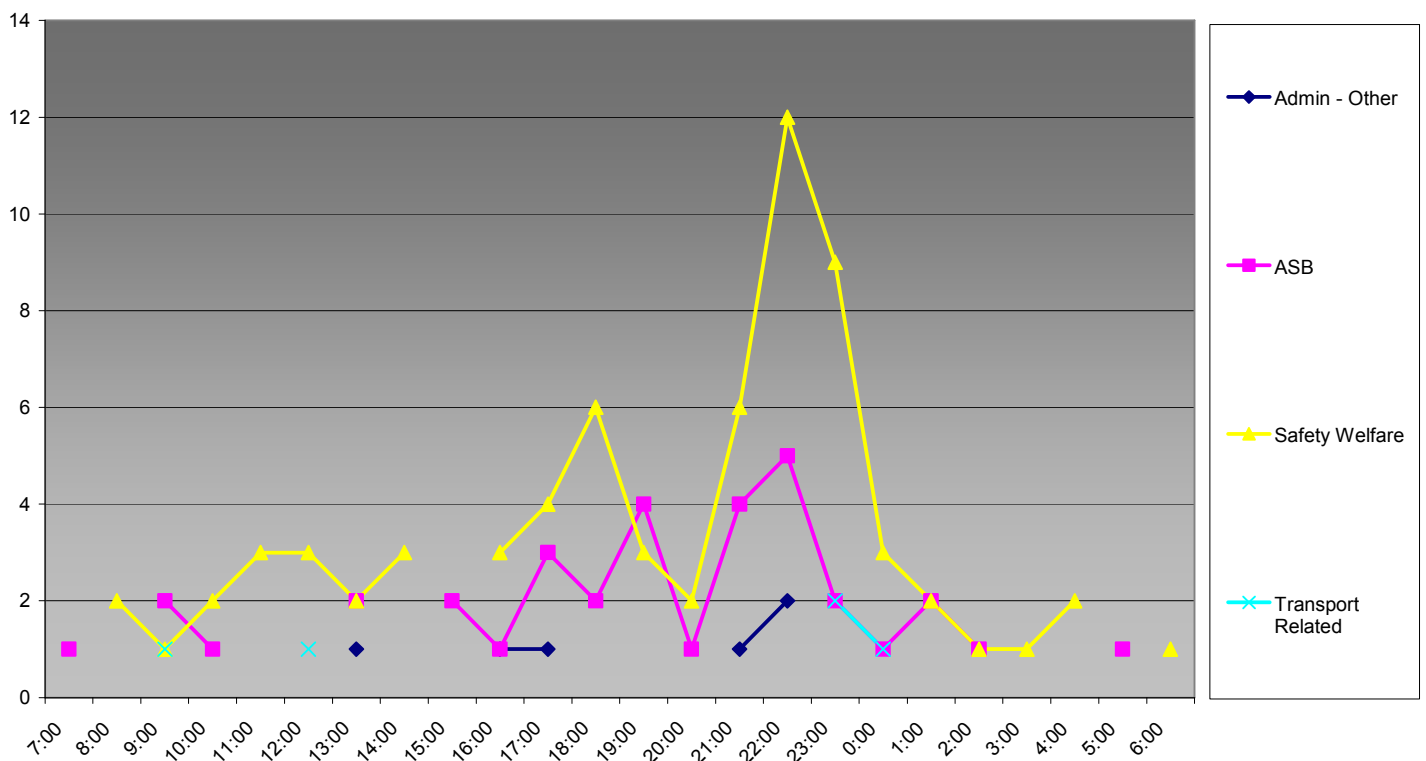


Appendix 1 – Wellington Analysis – Area of Study

Rates Per 1000 Households or Population against the Leeds District

	Area Rate	Leeds Rate
Burg Dwell per 1000 Households	26.2	32.6
Criminal Damage per 1000 Pop	40.7	29.9
Drugs Offences per 1000 Pop	1.0	4.7
Vehicle Crime per 1000 Pop	15.9	17.1
Violent Crime per 1000 Pop	15.9	22.6
ASB per 1000 Pop	69.4	71.2

Incidents by Hour for the 3 Month Period



Appendix 1 – Wellington Analysis – Area of Study

Incidents and Crimes in Bramley (Beat 6)

Offences on Wellington Mount

Over the last two years (between 17/09/05 – 17/09/07) there have been 12 offences committed on Wellington Mount*

*Data taken from Corvus.

THEFT - FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	5
DAMAGE TO MOTOR VEHICLE	4
BURGLARY DWELLING - STEAL DAMAGE OR WITH INTENT	1
INTERFERENCE WITH MOTOR VEHICLE	1
THEFT - NON SPECIFIC	1

The 4 DTMV offences were all committed between 21:30 – 21:40 on the same date (a Wednesday night). Several youths were seen moving down the street towards Broad Lane hitting numerous vehicles with their hands and feet, pushing a wing mirror off a vehicle and jumping up and down on a motor cycle. When the youths were confronted by the complainant and neighbours they retaliated by attacking other vehicles. Wellington Mount is described as being an access route between Broad Lane and St Catherine's Estate.

There were 4 offences committed at Wellington Mount. 2 were TFMV offences committed between 19:30 on 04/12/06 and 08:00 on 05/12/07 where suspect/s forced the driver's door of 2 cars and removed the car stereo. There was another TFMV committed between 04/12/06 – 05/12/06 where suspect/s attacked the door lock and stole a CD player). The other offence was a theft non specific offence where garden furniture and ornaments were stolen.

There were 2 TFMV offences committed on this street where ladders were removed from vans. In both offences the rope/security chain/cables securing the ladders were cut off.

The interference with a motor vehicle offence involved the vehicle door being bent back and an attempt made to hot wire the car.

In the Burglary Dwelling offence the suspect/s gained entry to the dwelling through an insecure door and stole a plasma TV, mobile phone, keys, cash and a handbag. The handbag was later recovered by the complainant in an alleyway at the end of the street.

All of the above offences were committed in the evening time / overnight (between 17:45 – 08:00).

Offences on Wellington Terrace

There were 23 offences committed on Wellington Terrace between 17/09/05 – 17/09/07. The majority of offences committed on this street were vehicle crimes (65%) and 35% of these were damage to motor vehicle crimes. There were 4 kinds of damage caused to the vehicles on this street; 3 x puncture tyre/s, 2 x smash windscreen, 2 x scratch vehicle and 1 x kick and stand on bonnet causing a dent.

DAMAGE TO MOTOR VEHICLE	8
THEFT - FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	3
ASSAULT OCCASIONING ABH - S.47	2
BURGLARY DWELLING - STEAL DAMAGE OR WITH INTENT	2
DAMAGE TO DWELLING	2
INTERFERENCE WITH MOTOR VEHICLE	2
AGGRAVATED VEHICLE TAKING - TWOC / TWLA	1
ARSON	1
DAMAGE PROPERTY - NON SPECIFIC	1
THEFT - OF MOTOR VEHICLE	1

Appendix 1 – Wellington Analysis – Area of Study

The TFMV offences were varied; 1 x smash window and search glove box, the following day the door mirror was pulled off the vehicle, 1 x remove power tools from the back of a pick up truck and 1 x remove spare wheel from vehicle.

Interference with a Motor Vehicle – 1 x force door lock but no entry gained and 1 x pull back the top of the door (unclear if entry gained).

The theft of motor vehicle was a theft of a scooter.

The remaining offences involved 2 offences were a bb gun/rifle was fired at a dwelling, a stolen vehicle being driven erratically in the street, a bike underneath the vehicle seat was set of fire, two burglaries (1 x enter via an insecure door and steal car and property (car crashes into nearby wall), and 1 x force door lock and steal property and car (car parked 50 metres down the road), cut satellite cable and two assaults (a group of youths is gathered outside the complainants address, 1 youth enters the garden and refuses to leave, an argument ensues and the complainant is assaulted and 1 x complainant is approached by the suspect who asks who threw a stone at his window, complainant is assaulted).

Incidents Over the Last Six Months (18/03/07 – 17/09/07)

Wellington Mount

There were 6 incidents reported on Wellington Mount over the last 6 months. Only one was anti-social behaviour – loutish behaviour.

Crime	Incidents	Total
Crime - Criminal Damage		2
Crime - Theft of from Vehicle		1
Crime - Suspicious Circs		1
	Safety Welfare - Suspicious Circs	1
	ASB - Loutish Behaviour	1
Total		6

Wellington Terrace

There were 7 incidents reported on Wellington Terrace over the last six months, three of which were loutish behaviour.

Incidents	Total
ASB - Loutish Behaviour	3
X - Unspecified	3
Safety Welfare - Firearms No Crime	1
Total	7

The unspecified incidents involved youths climbing on the shed roof and banging on the windows, nuisance youths on the street pulling faces at the caller through the window and damage to car caused by suspect/s jumping on the bonnet.

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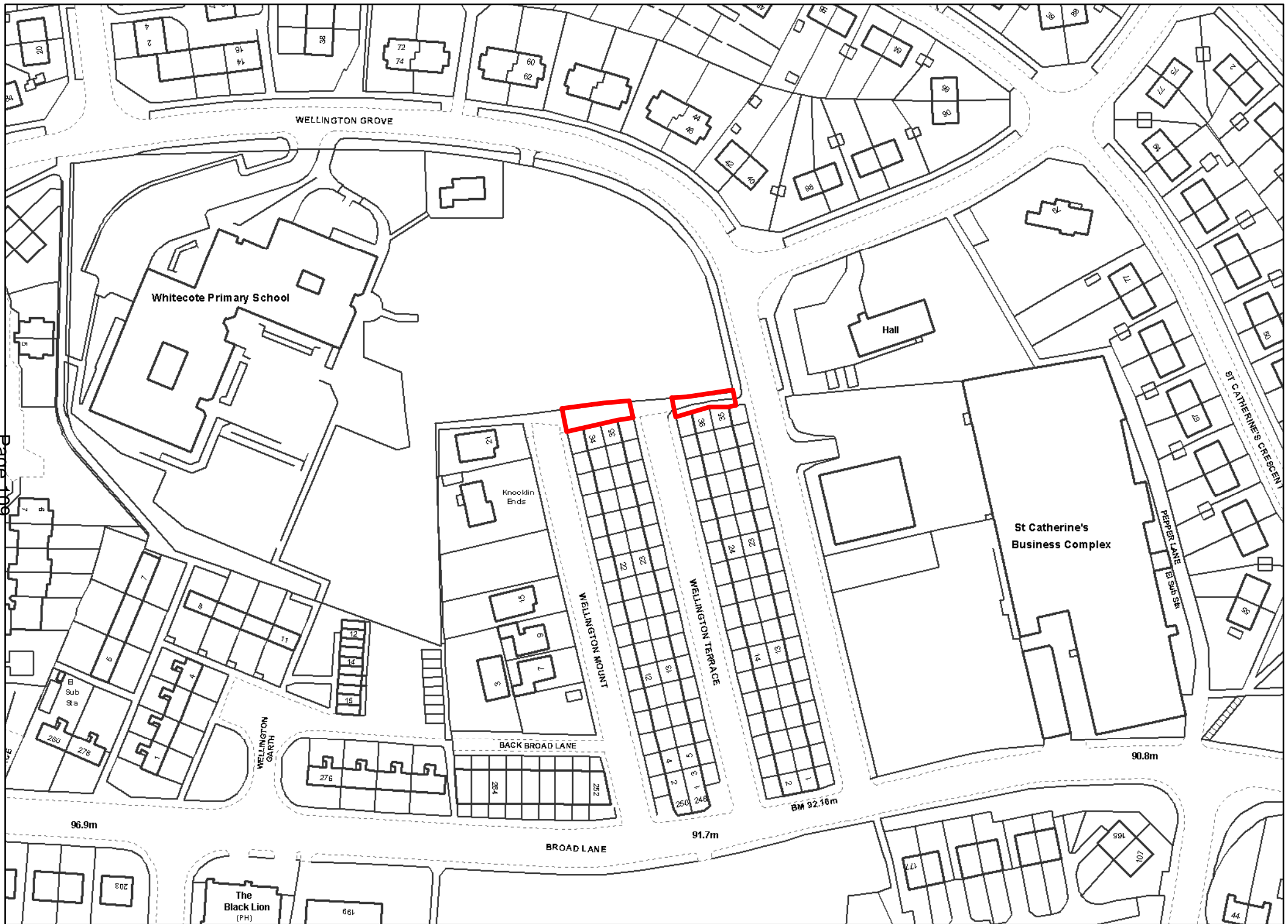
Alleygating Scheme Proposals Wellington Terrace and Wellington Mount, Broad Lane
Survey Results September 2007

NAME	ADDRESS	TEL.	YEARS' RESIDENCY	AGREE / DISAGREE WITH GATING	EXPERIENCE OF CRIME / ASB RELATING TO GINNEL	COMMENTS
				Agree	Car window smashed and radio stolen, eggs thrown at door and windows, drunken noise, bicycle noise	
				Agree	Broken wing mirrors, stolen wheel trims, car door kicked	Had to have burglar alarm fitted
				Agree	Yobs trying to break into hut, drug use, vandalism	Hope gating goes ahead, good idea
				Agree	Garden plant pots stolen	Fantastic idea – I have two small children and would feel much safer knowing that alley was only being used by residents
				Agree	Car scratched	Gates to be locked permanently with only council access
				Agree	House been broken into 3 times, car windows broken and things stolen	July 31 st neighbour and myself stopped the theft of a garden bench from no. 19. Few days later bench was stolen from no. 36. Gate would provide security and peace of mind.
				Agree	Car been broken into twice and garden furniture been stolen	
				Agree	Car vandalised	Fantastic idea – would make the street safer and quieter
				Agree	Kids hanging round can be unnerving	
				Agree	Have been affected by crime	Very little road cleaning since these streets been adopted by council
				Agree	Car windows smashed, plants taken, eggs thrown at house, garage roof	Many incidents by youths using Back Broad Lane as short cut. Very dimly lit. Agree with

					broken into, ladders stolen, tyres slashed	proposed fencing at top of Wellington Mount / Terrace
				Agree	Car tyres slashed and yoghurt thrown over car	
				Agree	Car broken into twice, objects thrown at front windows, football kicked hard at car windows, abuse	
				Agree	Have contacted police and council on number of occasions. Big problem of theft, vehicle damage, vandalism, damage to street lighting, fire of dumped armchair and table in shrubbery	All aforementioned problems seem to be on increase, so gating of ginnel between Wellington Mount and Terrace would be very much appreciated
				Agree	Stones thrown at windows	Residents need to feel more secure
				Agree	Car vandalised and ASB from ginnel	Really hope gating gets approved
				Agree	A sofa was set on fire in the ginnel	
				Agree	Wing mirrors knocked off 3 times, paint thrown over car, beer cans thrown in garden, food thrown at window. Culprits ran off through top ginnel on each occasion	
				Agree	Car crime	
				Agree	Wing mirrors been kicked off twice, pellets fired at lounge window	Lot of people who live on their own on Wellington Mount and scared of gangs on street
				Agree	Motorcycle stolen, youths sitting on my wall drinking and swearing	Eggs thrown at door and windows. Keep people informed of what is happening with ginnel
				Agree	Stones thrown at Chinese takeaway which we own. Youths made their escape down ginnel. Contacted ASBU about it.	
				Agree	Cars have been broken into and ginnel provides an escape route	Gating is good idea

					Agree	Paint poured on car, youths banging on kitchen window	Gates are definitely needed
					Agree		
					Agree	Items taken from garden, witnessed youths taking things from other people's gardens and running off up ginnel	Needs to be done
					Agree	Bench stolen from garden	Concerned about look of gates as they would adjoin my property. Would prefer blocking off alleyway but would support gating if they look good and suit the area
					Agree	Trees and flowers stolen, stones thrown at windows	Had security gate fitted and had to fit new lock as someone tried to force it open
					Agree	No	
					Agree	No	No
					Agree	I think it is a good idea for the residents of the Terrace and the Mount and the safety of themselves and their property	Can you look at current problems of speeding vehicles on the Grove
					Agree	Washing stolen, groups of youths cutting through, youths siphoning petrol from cars, mini motorbikes cutting through	
					Agree	Things stolen from garden, car damaged, seen neighbour's dog being shot with airgun	
					Agree	Paint thrown at my car, witnessed damage to neighbours' cars, fire in shrubbery	Incidents opposite are distressing and upsetting. I think gating the ginnel would reduce these crimes as perpetrators escape down it
					Agree	Garden furniture stolen twice, fence vandalised, car vandalised, mud thrown at door and windows, bins knocked over, abuse and drunken behaviour	Gangs of youths drinking and shouting abuse in street makes residents feel uneasy. Vandalism major worry. Gating would stop ongoing problems and lead to a more secure environment
					Agree	Mugged by youth in ginnel, garden	Strong feeling among residents that something

								needs to be done with the ginnel to prevent youths from gathering in it
							Agree	furniture stolen, vehicle damaged, youths being abusive – hit fence and tried to get into house Car scratched
							Agree	No Feel that railings across bottom would be an eyesore, and would be more beneficial to put them at Gable Ends Agree with gating end of Wellington Terrace and Mount but not for railings to cross end of Wellington Terrace. Gating to go at end of rows of houses and not fully across the bottom of my street as I believe this will be an eyesore Good idea
							Agree	Items stolen from washing line, been verbally abused, stones thrown at door, car broken into Break-ins. Sent file of incidents to Cllrs Carter and Atkinson requesting alleygating
							Agree	Litter in garden, car scratched, witnessed verbal abuse, woken at night from noise of youths hanging around
							Agree	Cars parked outside have been vandalised or broken into on numerous occasions
							Agree	Ginnel needs closing off
							Disagree	No. I have been affected by crime and ASB due to lack of police presence at night. Gating the ginnel would make Wellington Grove more of a target for ASB and crime. Gating would also have a detrimental effect on the values of our properties and make it a no go area. Needs more policing at night.



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Report of Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing

To Director of City Services and the Director of Development

Date: 5th February 2008

Subject: Gating Order – Back Sandhurst Place, Harehills, Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected:

GIPTON AND HAREHILLS

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Executive Summary

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing is promoting the installation of gates across the carriageways in the Sandhurst area of the Gipton and Harehills Ward to temporarily close the highway due to high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. The proposal has the support of the community and all relevant bodies. This report seeks the approval of the Director of City Services to initiate the legal process for the highway closure.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek authority to temporarily close the carriageway. Back Sandhurst Place runs at the rear of Sandhurst Place and Sandhurst Road. These carriageways are situated in the Gipton and Harehills Ward.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 Section 129A to 129G of the Highways Act allows for the making of a gating order to temporarily close a highway to high levels of anti-social behaviour and crime. The legal provision came into effect on 1 April 2006. The adopted status of the highway is unchanged by the order.

2.2 These back roads have been the focus for anti-social behaviour (ASB) and crime for a number of years and continue to suffer. The area is a busy, built-up residential area with a constantly changing population. There are approximately 596

households with 1,534 residents in the Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOA)¹. The crime domain at 2,470 is ranked in the worst 10 percent in England.

- 2.3 Local residents have voiced their concerns and anger over the rise in crime and ASB to West Yorkshire Police (WYP), Elected Members and council officers from various departments. Many of the residents have, and continue to be victims of crime and criminal damage where offenders have used the back road to access and egress properties.
- 2.4 Leeds City Council's Neighbourhoods and Housing Department – Community Safety, ASBU, ALMO and Area Management – received complaints from residents demanding action to address the issues. Local Ward Councillors have also expressed their concern with the issues occurring in the area. Meetings with various individuals have also taken place to ascertain the extent of the problems in the area.
- 2.5 Back Sandhurst Place is accessible from the main highway; Harehills Lane and also Dorset Road, and is therefore fairly visible to passers-by. Irrespective of this, residents express concerns that criminal activity and more prominently ASB continues in the back road, and that they report feeling intimidated by problem individuals and groups that use the back road to carry out these offences. This back road has been referred by local councillors because it suffers from the problems mentioned below and therefore it has been targeted by Community Safety for alleygating as a priority. It might be that the problems occurring here have been made worse by the appearance of the newly-erected alleygates in the neighbouring back roads and this would suggest that problem causers and criminals have to seek new, accessible locations to cause problems.
- 2.6 There are many different offences occurring in this area but the most common crimes to occur are criminal damage and violent crime. In terms of incidences, Anti-social behaviour is most prevalent in and around the Sandhurst Place vicinity with the majority of ASB complaints being made from Thursday through to the end of the weekend. Most of this ASB is gang related and reported incidences include large gatherings of abusive, threatening youths in the back road, several items being thrown at properties and individuals (eggs, fireworks, stones, etc). There are also a number of cases of youths being seen taking illegal substances, as well as sniffing aerosols.
- 2.7 Due to their proximity to major highways, these back roads provide a quick cut through and ideal escape route for criminals and nuisance youths operating in the area. It is also an ideal alternative route for vehicles seeking quick and easy access to and from major highways through the Harehills estate. As there are a large number of young families living in the area, there are grave concerns regarding speeding motor vehicles and children's safety, some of which use the back roads as a play area. This issue also concerns the dangerous use of motorbikes by nuisance youths in the back road and the danger that these vehicles, and their riders can have on local residents.
- 2.8 The ASBU Enforcement officer for the area has had regular contact with residents to try to identify those causing problems in the area.
- 2.9 Inner East Leeds Neighbourhood Wardens regularly patrol the area and they have vigorously pursued the possibility of alleygating to the area.
- 2.10 West Yorkshire Police NE Leeds Central Neighbourhood Police Team has worked tirelessly in the area to alleviate some of the problems. This includes the use of Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) to patrol the area, although

¹ Data obtained from 2001 Census for LSOA Leeds NE 014

unfortunately, reported problems appear to occur when a uniformed presence is less likely, and providing such presence on a constant basis, at a time when crimes are more likely to occur (early evening to early morning), is unsustainable.

- 2.11 For some time now there has been an Anti-Social Behaviour Police Link officer working in the area to target various problem individuals and groups committing ASB. Part of the role of the officer is to provide a link between West Yorkshire Police and the multi-agencies working in the area and they orchestrate the flow of information regarding criminal activity to and from the Police.
- 2.12 The effects of making the order for properties adjoining or adjacent to the highway subject to the gating would be positive. All residents and owners of rented properties, along with lettings agents who look after property in the affected area were contacted as part of the consultation and the majority were in agreement that gating the back road would improve their quality of life and reduce crime and ASB.
- 2.13 The concerns of the residents are supported by the crime and incident figures. There have been a total of 122 crimes and/or incidents in and around the area containing this highway over the last year which represents a considerable amount and reflects an ongoing trend towards high crime in this particular area of the city.
- 2.14 Whilst the most common recorded crimes are those mentioned in paragraph 2.6 above, there is also a pattern of reported crimes occurring with the most common being general Anti-Social and Nuisance. The bulk of this is being committed by groups of youths congregating in the back road. Residents report being made to feel vulnerable and have stated that they feel unwilling to report incidences for fear of reprisals.
- 2.15 A planning application to gate this back road will be submitted mid-January 2008.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Design Proposals / Scheme Description

- 3.1.1 A lot of hard work continues to take place in the area to eradicate the problems. Despite this, the area continues to be blighted by crime and ASB. It is now proposed to temporarily close the highway by means of a gating order with a view to stopping the ASB and crime which is believed to be associated with this back road.
- 3.1.2 Self locking gates no higher than 2.3m with matching fencing in galvanized powder coated steel will be installed at both ends of the back roads to prevent access to them for those not living in the immediate vicinity.
- 3.1.3 The gates will be locked 24 hours a day. Residents living in the properties adjoining or adjacent to the back roads will be provided with a key on request from Neighbourhoods and Housing's Community Safety Service. The gate locks will be numbered in accordance with the system devised by LCC Community safety. Emergency and other services will be provided with keys on request. City Services Street Cleansing and WYP will also be provided with keys.
- 3.1.4 Community Safety will carry out future maintenance of the gates. A commuted sum has been provided for this purpose.
- 3.1.5 Leeds City Council is required to keep a Register of all Gating Orders, to be available to the public and reviewed annually to determine whether the gating measures are still required. Leeds Community Safety will carry out the annual review for these gates. The register will be kept on the Highways register as maintained by Highways Services

3.2 Consultations

- 3.2.1 Ward Members: All Ward members have been actively involved in promoting these gating orders and have been instrumental in securing funding for alleygates elsewhere in their ward. Leeds Community Safety will pay 50% of the funding for the project out its Safer Stronger Communities Fund Capital budget, and the remaining 50% will be paid by Leeds Inner East Area Committee.
- 3.2.2 Residents: On 2nd April 2007 all residents in the adjoining and adjacent area were sent postal consultation packs to ascertain their views about the possibility of alleygating the area. Packs were also sent to Landlords and Lettings agents of property in the affected area. Residents not responding to the postal consultation were re-visited by the alleygating officer so that a better response to the consultation could be achieved. Residents living in gable-end properties were visited separately to discuss gate design and location, and to gather permissions from them for any works to their property to go ahead.
- 3.2.3 Police: NE Leeds Police Division has been aware of the problems within these back roads and has implemented various strategies to address the problems in the area through the Central Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). These problems have existed for some time and the area has now been included in a series of action days where Police and PCSO presence will be increased to deal with these and other issues. NPT officers along with PCSOs and Neighbourhood wardens will continue to patrol the area and report any issues at local multi-agency meetings on a fortnightly basis. Many of these issues are then followed up by the ASB Police Link Officer. Despite all the work going on in the area, problems still exist. Various problem individuals have been identified through stop checks and the ASB officer for the area has worked on a number of nominals known to operate in the area, even though obtaining evidence from local residents proves difficult. Despite various tactics being used, the area continues to suffer from ongoing problems. One of the most recent problems to blight the area is an increase in sneak-in burglaries. This is a crime most pertinent for alleygating. Offenders are accessing properties through rear first floor windows or rear doors left open by unsuspecting householders. Alleygating is seen as a vital tool in the area for helping to combat some of these major issues.
- 3.2.4 Community Safety: Neighbourhoods and Housing – Community Safety section is satisfied that the crime element is sufficient to apply for a gating order.
- 3.2.5 Highways: Development Department and City Services have both been consulted and have no objections to the proposals. Highways users will need to take alternative routes which will incur a detour of approximately 10 metres; however this inconvenience has to be placed in context of the community safety situation. Alternative routes exist along Sandhurst Place and Sandhurst Road. These are reasonable alternative routes and add very little time to the journey. They can also be assumed to be safer routes to take rather than the back roads as users would be in full view of the fronts of properties and to traffic using Harehills Lane.
- 3.2.6 Rights of way: Learning and Leisure Department has been consulted and have no objections to the proposals.
- 3.2.7 Utilities: Utility and other service providers were contacted regarding the proposed gating scheme. No objections were received.
- 3.2.8 Emergency services: The Fire, Health and Police Authorities were contacted regarding the proposed gating scheme. No objections were received.

3.2.9 Prescribed organisations and the Local Access Forum (LAF): The Leeds Local Access Forum will be consulted.

3.3 Gating Order Publicity

3.3.1 Home office Guidance regarding publicity relating to the making of Gating Order will be followed.

3.4 Implications for Highways users

3.4.1 The implications for highways users will be that there will be a loss of amenity so non-resident users will have to take alternative routes that will incur an approximate detour of 15 metres, as referred to in 3.2.5 above. It is unlikely that those who had used the back roads as a short cut will resort to having to use vehicles if the amenity is lost, as the majority of non-residents live in very close proximity to the back roads.

3.5 Programme

3.5.1 It is anticipated that subject to approval these proposals will be implemented in May 2008.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

4.1 The proposals contained in this report comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and help to contribute to the safety and well being of the people in the community.

5.0 Health Impact

5.1 It is not anticipated that there would be an adverse impact on the health of the users if the amenity was lost as the proposed alternative routes will add very little to journey times and the alternatives are safe pedestrian routes. This meets Leeds travelwise policy of discouraging private car use and promoting walking to school.

6.0 Legal and Resource Implications

6.1 Funding has been secured from Leeds Community Safety and Leeds East Area Committee for installation and maintenance of the gates and fencing, all legal and administration costs and provision of keys.

6.2 Funding does not cover support for a public enquiry. This will only be required if there are overwhelming objections to the gating orders and in such unlikely circumstances, the continued promotion of the scheme will be reviewed.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 Despite much multi-agency work occurring in the problem area, the issues still persist when there is not a uniformed presence in the area. It is unsustainable to deploy council or police officers to this area on a permanent basis. It is clear that a physical barrier would prevent anti-social behaviour or criminal person or persons, who do not live in the vicinity, from entering the back roads.

8.0 Recommendations

DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

8.1 The Director is requested to:

- i. Approve the gating of Back Sandhurst Place leading from Dorset Road to Harehills Lane as shown on the attached drawing, in accordance with Section 129A of the Highways Act 1980; and
- ii. Request the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) to advertise the notices of intention to make gating orders and, in the event that no representations as to whether or not the proposed gating order should be made in response to the notice or are otherwise received, for the orders to be made and brought into operation.

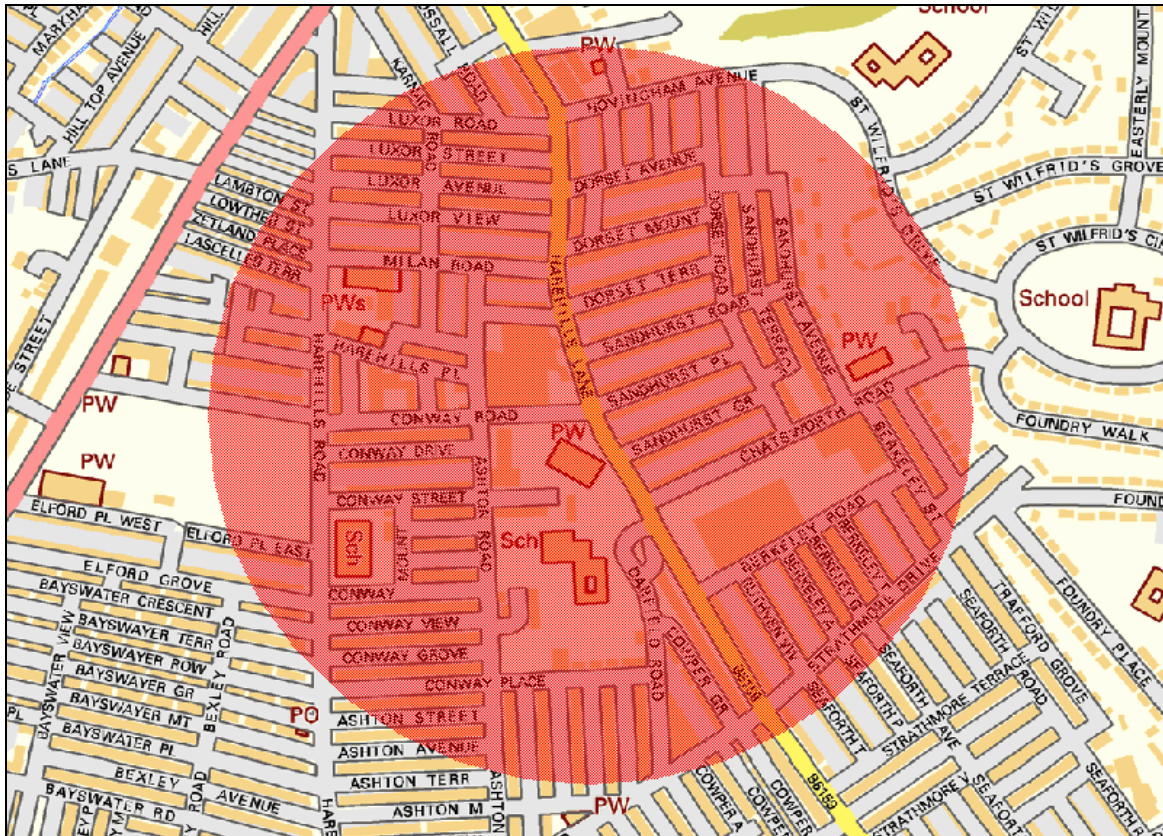
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

8.2 The Director is requested to note the content of this report.

Appendix 1 – Sandhurst Place – Area of study

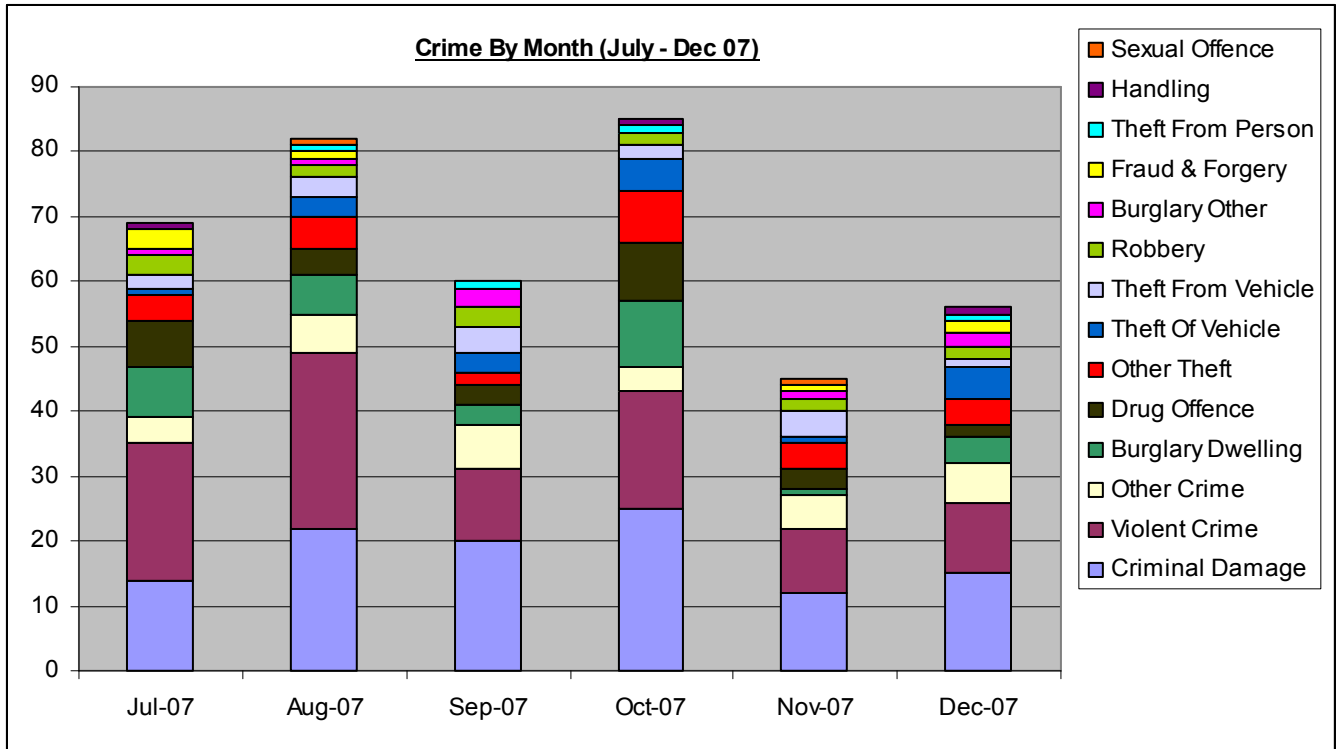
Crime Area of Study:	Sandhurst Place & Area defined below
Date Period:	July – Dec 07 (Crime & Incidents)
Data Type:	Recorded Crime Data & Recorded Incidents

Sandhurst Place:Area of Study

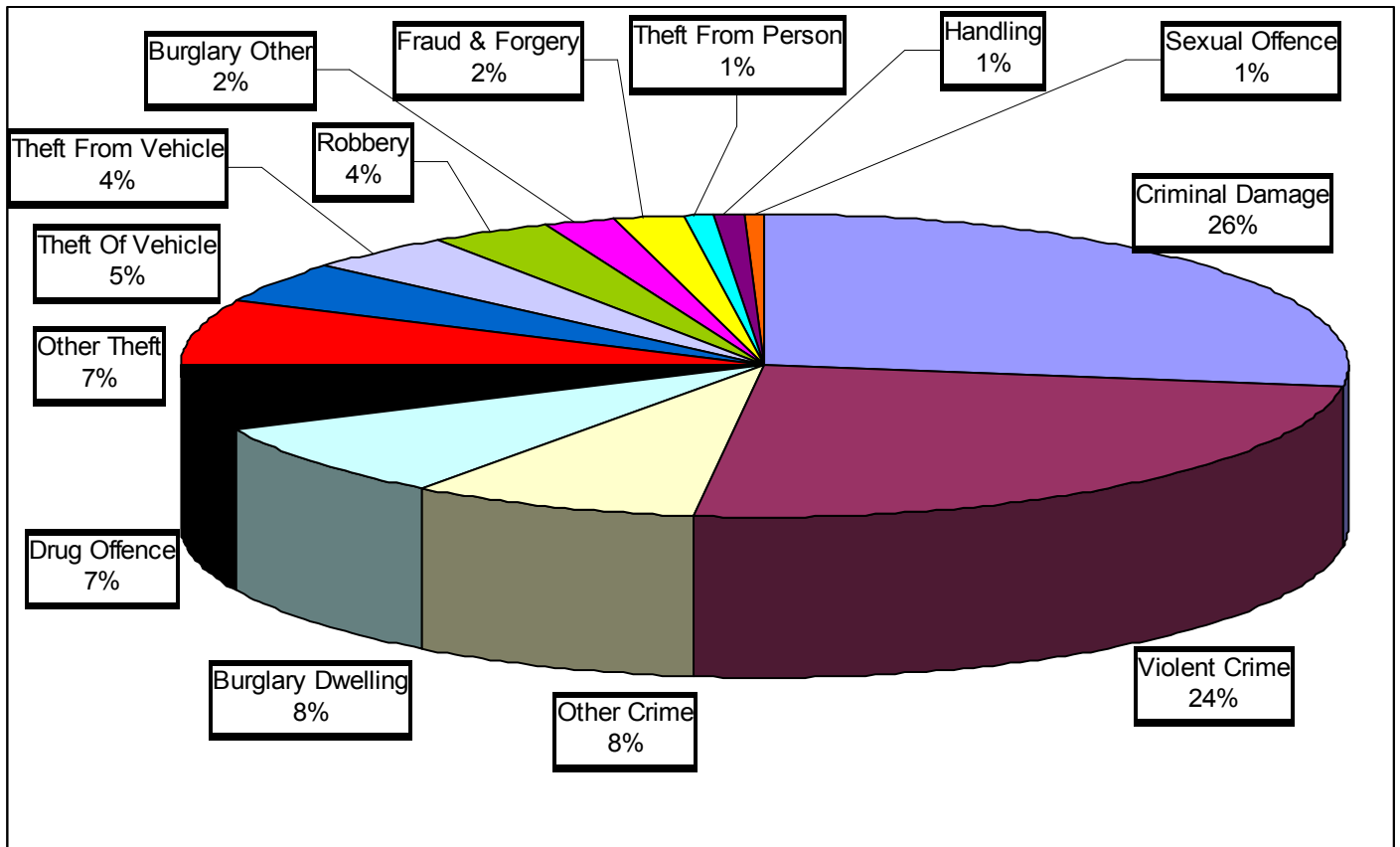


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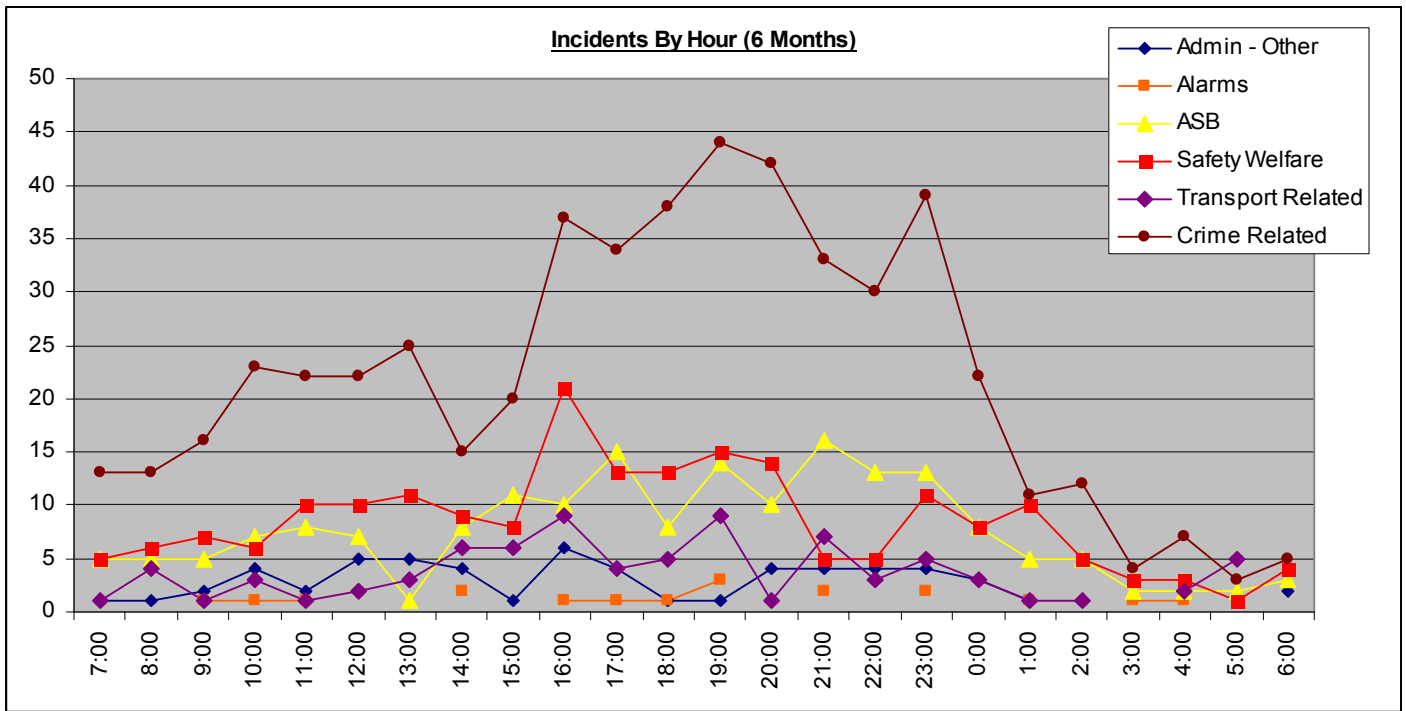
Appendix 1 – Sandhurst Place – Area of study



Crime By Type (July - Dec 07)



Appendix 1 – Sandhurst Place – Area of study



**Criminality and ASB Incident Levels in the Area Shown
(1st December 2006 – 30th November 2007)**

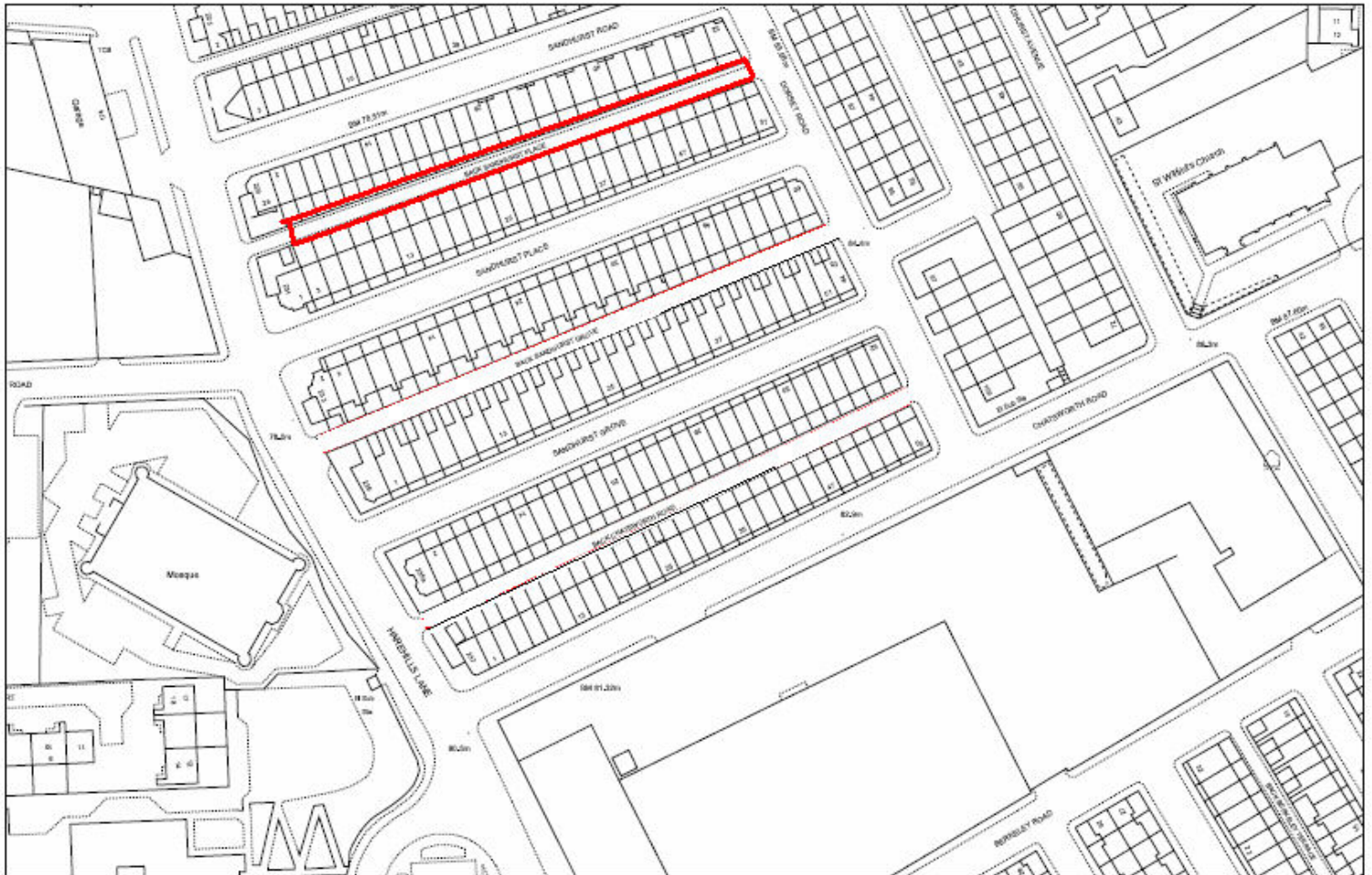
Street Name	ASB	ASSL	BURD	DMGE	DTMV	ROBB	TFMV	TOMV	Total
CHATSWORTH ROAD	6	4	0	3	0	1	0	0	14
HAREHILLS LANE	4	4	0	2	3	0	5	2	20
HOVINGHAM AVENUE	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
HOVINGHAM GROVE	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
HOVINGHAM TERRACE	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
SANDHURST AVENUE	12	1	0	3	1	0	0	1	18
SANDHURST GROVE	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	5
SANDHURST PLACE	18	0	0	4	0	0	0	2	24
SANDHURST ROAD	4	2	1	1	1	0	2	0	11
SANDHURST TERRACE	15	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	18
Total	67	17	3	13	7	2	8	5	122

Explanation of Headings – (ASB) Anti-Social Behaviour, (ASSL) Assault, (BURD) Burglary Dwelling, (DMGE) Criminal Damage, (DTMV) Damage To Motor Vehicle, (ROBB) Robbery, (TFMV) Theft From Motor Vehicle, (TOMV) Theft Of Motor Vehicle

The table above shows the breakdown of incidents and crimes by street in the locality of the back road (Back Sandhurst Place).

- Busiest day of the week for Crimes appeared to be Fridays. Peak time analysis shows 14:00 – 00:00hrs as busiest periods throughout the week. Weighted analysis suggests 17:00 – 21:00hrs.
- ASB incidents were found to be busiest on weekdays Thursday through to Saturday. Busiest hours through the week were 18:00 – 19:00hrs, though the time periods spanning 17:00 – 23:00 were notably busier than other times.
- ASB concerning a youth driving an old motorbike in the backstreets of the area, several incidents of this type included in the above figures. Some incidents concerning several bikes being used to race up and down the backstreets.
- Gangs of youths in the area, reports concerned with them throwing objects (stones, eggs, water, fireworks) at residents and intimidating the local people. Mainly Asian gangs. Reports of gangs knocking on doors and gathering in the streets.
- Gangs are smoking and gathering, fighting one another, shooting BB guns at each other and the locals. They sit on other peoples walls and will also kick the walls down.
- Gangs of yourths are also taking drugs, sniffing aerosols and acting inappropriately with one another.

All data believed correct as of 13/12/07.



PRODUCED BY THE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

Scale : 1/1250

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Report of Director of Neighborhoods and Housing

To Director of City Services and the Director of Development

Date: 5th February 2008

Subject: Gating Order – Back Stratford Terrace (Middle & Upper sections), Beeston, Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected:

City and Hunslet

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Eligible for Call In

Executive Summary

The Director of Neighborhoods and Housing is promoting the installation of gates across a carriageway in the Stratford Terrace area of the City and Hunslet Ward to temporarily close the highway due to high levels of crime. The proposal has the support of the community and all relevant bodies. This report seeks the approval of the Director of City Services to initiate the legal process for the highway closure.

1.0 Purpose of this Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek authority to temporarily close the carriageway. The carriageway runs at the rear of Stratford Terrace and Stratford Street. This carriageway is situated in the City and Hunslet Ward.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 Section 129A to 129G of the Highways Act allows for the making of a gating order to temporarily close a highway in response to high levels of anti-social behavior and crime. The legal provision came into effect on 1st April 2006. The adopted status of the highway is unchanged by the order.

2.2 This back road is split into 3 parts, and alleygating has already been erected at the bottom end of Back Stratford Terrace adjacent to properties numbered 2-58 Stratford Terrace and 27-77 Stratford Street. This back road has been the focus for anti-social behaviour (ASB) and crime for a number of years. Since the completion of this gating scheme, there has been a noticeable difference in the improved

security to the gated area. Unfortunately this has encouraged youth nuisance and traffic problems to be shifted to the other sections of Back Stratford Terrace at the rear of properties 60-88 & 90-116 Stratford Terrace and 79-105 & 107-133 Stratford Street. The area is a built-up residential location with a changing population. There are 775 households with 1564 residents in the Stratford Terrace LSOA (Lower Layer Super Output Areas). The crime domain at 5026, is ranked in the worst 15 percent in England.

- 2.3 Residents have voiced their concerns over the rise in crime and ASB to West Yorkshire Police, Elected Members and council officers. A number of residents have been victims of crime and criminal damage where offenders have used the back road to commit crime and ASB incidents.
- 2.4 Leeds City Council's Neighbourhoods and Housing Department – Community Safety, ASBU, and Area Management - received emails and phone calls from residents demanding action to address the issues. Local ward councilors have also expressed their concern with the issues occurring in the area. Meetings with residents have also taken place to ascertain the extent of the problems in the area.
- 2.5 Back Stratford Terrace is part of a tight network of streets that is visible from the main roads. It is located just off 'Stratford Square' – a notorious gathering place for gangs of troublesome youths – and is used as a route for quick escape from the area. West Yorkshire Police South Leeds Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) is aware that Back Stratford Terrace provides an ideal location for ASB and criminal activity. Due to the close proximity of the back road to Stratford Square, there have been many reports from residents about ASB, criminal damage and noise nuisance. There has also been a rise in people's fear of crime in the area due to the numbers of congregating youths there. With the lower section of Back Stratford Terrace having now been gated, the problems in the other two sections have been exacerbated to a point where they also now require gating to alleviate these problems.
- 2.6 Residents living adjacent to the back road continue to leave their rear doors and windows open during the day, and this may explain why the burglary rate in the area is higher than the average Leeds burglary rate per 1000 households / population. Whilst the back road is fairly visible, it still provides some coverage to criminals carrying out these activities. Much work has been done by the Police and other agencies, such as Neighbourhood Wardens to tackle this problem.
- 2.7 This back road makes an ideal 'rat run' for motor vehicles moving around the estate. Many adjacent properties house young families and there is concern amongst residents that they cannot allow their children out in the back road to play due to the numbers and speeds of motor vehicles using the back road.
- 2.8 The NPT along with other agencies continue working hard to address some of these issues by visiting residents and working closely with local community groups to alleviate some of the issues. Various strategies have been implemented in the area to address the youth congregation and associated problems, and alleygating now joins that list. Continuous initiatives include increasing patrols in the area at different times of the day by the Police, PCSO's and Neighbourhood Wardens. Unfortunately a constant uniformed presence is unsustainable and the problems in the area have persisted.
- 2.9 The effects of making the order for properties adjoining or adjacent to the highway subject to gating would be positive. All residents and owners of any rented property along with lettings agents who look after property in the affected area were contacted as part of the consultation and all were in agreement that gating the back road would improve their quality of life and reduce their fear of crime and ASB.

2.10 The residents concerns are supported by the crime figures. There have been a total of 158 crimes in the Stratford Terrace area (March 2005-March 2007). This accounts for 0.5% of the total crime within the City and Hunslet ward. Indeed over the last six months from June 2007 to end 2007, various recorded crime in the proposed vicinity shows an increase compared to the city average rate (see Appendix 1). Increases in the rate of burglary dwellings, criminal damage and violent crime along with almost double the rate of reported ASB incidences in the area highlight worrying problems in the area proposed for gating.

2.11 A Planning application to gate the back road will be submitted mid-January 2008.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Design Proposals / Scheme Description

3.1.1 Work continues in the area to eradicate the problems. Despite this, the area continues to suffer from crime and ASB. It is now proposed to temporarily close the highway by means of a gating order with a view to stopping the ASB and crime which is believed to be associated with the back road.

3.1.2 Self locking gates no higher than 2.3m with matching fencing in galvanized powder coated steel will be installed at both ends of the back road to prevent access for those not living in the immediate vicinity.

3.1.3 The gates will be locked 24 hours a day. Residents living in the streets connected by the back road will be provided with a key on request from Neighbourhoods and Housing's Community Safety Service. The gate locks will be numbered in accordance with the system devised by LCC Community Safety. Emergency and other services will be provided with keys on request. City Services Street Cleaning and WYP will also be provided with keys.

3.1.4 Community Safety will carry out future maintenance of the gates. A commuted sum has been provided for this purpose.

3.1.5 Leeds City Council is required to keep a Register of all Gating Orders, to be available to the public and reviewed annually to determine whether the gating measures are still required. Leeds Community Safety will carry out the annual review for these gates.

3.2 Consultations

3.2.1 Ward Members: All ward members have been actively involved in promoting these gating orders. Leeds Community safety will pay 50% of the funding for the project with the rest coming via the Inner South Leeds Area Committee capital budget.

3.2.2 Residents: On 6th July 2007 all residents in the adjoining and adjacent area were sent postal consultation packs to ascertain their views about the possibility of alleygating in the area. Packs were also sent to landlords and lettings agents of property in the affected area. Residents not responding to the postal consultation were re-visited by the alleygating officer so that a better response to the consultation could be received. Residents and / or owners living in gable-end properties were visited separately to discuss gate design and location, and to gather permissions from them for any works to their property to go ahead.

3.2.3 Police: Both before and after the erection of the alleygates to the lower section of Back Stratford Terrace, much work continues to be carried out by the NPT. There have been a number of operations in the area post-alleygating dealing with different aspects of crime occurring there. Operations dealing with vehicle crime and court

finances have taken place with a fair amount of success. There continues to be a two-fold initiative to combat the sneak-in burglary in the area. The first element of this involves speaking with residents and offering to 'Smartwater' (security mark) their property. The second element involves the referral of local residents to CASAC for target hardening (locks, alarms, lighting, etc). Again, these initiatives prove popular and continue to have a positive effect in the area but it is felt alleygating will not only complement these, but provide a much sterner deterrent towards the ongoing issues. It is also felt that by completing the final two sections of Back Stratford Terrace, it will help reduce the problems faced by residents living in the non-gated parts of this back road. A Police dispersal zone operates just outside the area which Back Sandhurst Terrace falls in and thus this may explain why youth congregation has moved back into the vicinity of Back Stratford Terrace. It is now felt necessary that alleygating be implemented into the remainder of this highway to prevent this problem from persisting.

- 3.2.4 Community Safety: Neighbourhoods and Housing – Community Safety section is satisfied that the crime element is sufficient to apply for a Gating Order.
- 3.2.5 Highways: Development Department and City Services have both been consulted and have no objections to the proposals. Highways users will need to take alternative routes which will incur a detour of approximately 15 metres, however this inconvenience has to be placed in context of the community safety situation. An alternative route exists via the main streets (Stratford Terrace, Stratford Street, Lodge Lane and Bude Road. These provide reasonable alternative routes as they add very little time (seconds) to the journey and provide a safer and more visible route.
- 3.2.6 Rights of Way: Learning and Leisure Department has been consulted and have no objections to the proposals.
- 3.2.7 Utilities: Utility and other service providers were contacted regarding the proposed gating scheme. No objections were received.
- 3.2.8 Emergencies Services: The Fire, Health and Police Authorities were contacted regarding the proposed gating scheme. No objections were received.
- 3.2.9 Leeds Local Access Forum: Consultation has taken place with this organisation.

3.3 Gating Order Publicity

- 3.3.1 Home Office Guidance regarding publicity relating to the making of Gating Order will be followed.

3.4 Implications for Highways Users

- 3.4.1 The implications for highways users is that there will be a loss of amenity so non-resident users will have to take alternative routes that will incur a detour of 15 metres, referred to in 3.2.5 above. It is unlikely that those who had used the back road as a short cut will resort to having to use vehicles if the amenity is lost.

3.5 Programme

- 3.5.1 It is anticipated that subject to approval these proposals will be implemented in March 2008.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

4.1 The proposals contained in this report comply with Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and help to contribute to the safety and well being of the people in the community.

5.0 Health Impact

5.1 It is not anticipated that there would be an adverse impact on the health of the users if the amenity was lost as the proposed alternative routes will add very little to journey times and the alternatives are safe pedestrian routes. This meets Leeds Travelwise policy of discouraging private car use and promoting walking to school.

6.0 Legal and Resource Implications

6.1 Funding has been secured from Leeds Community Safety and the Inner South Leeds Area Committee for installation and maintenance of the gates and fencing, all legal and administration costs and provision of keys.

6.2 Funding does not cover support for a Public Inquiry. This will only be required if there are overwhelming objections to the Gating Orders and in such unlikely circumstances, the continued promotion of the scheme will be reviewed.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 Despite a range of initiatives being implemented in the problem area, the issues still persist when there is not a uniformed presence in the area or at different times of the year when youth congregation grows. It is unsustainable to deploy council or police officers to this area on a permanent basis. It is clear that a physical barrier would prevent anti-social or criminal youth, who do not live in the vicinity, from entering the back road.

8.0 Recommendations

DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES

8.1 The Director is requested to:

- i) approve the gating of Back Stratford Terrace (Middle and Upper sections) leading from Bude Road to Westbourne Avenue and from Westbourne Avenue to Lodge Lane in accordance with the attached drawing in accordance with Section 129A of the highways Act 1980;
- ii) request the Director of Legal and Democratic Services to advertise the notices of intention to make Gating Orders and, in the event that no representations as to whether or not the proposed gating order should be made in response to the notice or are otherwise received, for the Orders to be made and brought into operation.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

8.2 The Director is requested to note the content of this report.

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Appendix 1 – Stratford Terrace – Area of study



MINUTE SHEET

Date: 21 December 2007

Ref:

To: **Brent Brady**

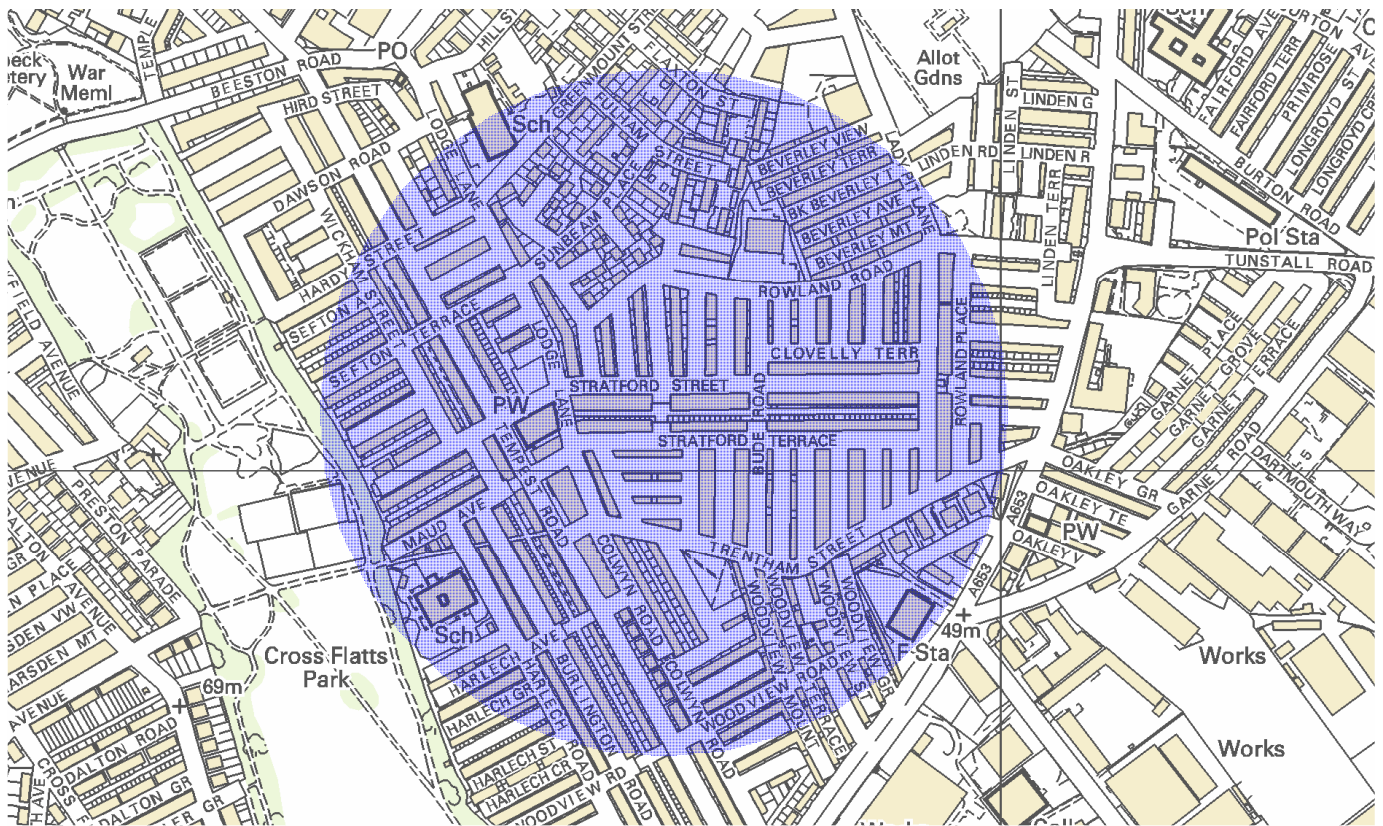
From: GIS Manager Malachi Rangelcroft, Performance Review, Corporate Review.

☎ 01924 292 093

Subject: **Stratford Terrace – Crime & Incident Analysis**

Crime Area of Study:	Stratford Terrace and 300m radius
Date Period:	Jun07 – Nov07 (Crime) Sep07 – Nov07 (Incidents)
Data Type:	Recorded Crime Data & Recorded Incidents

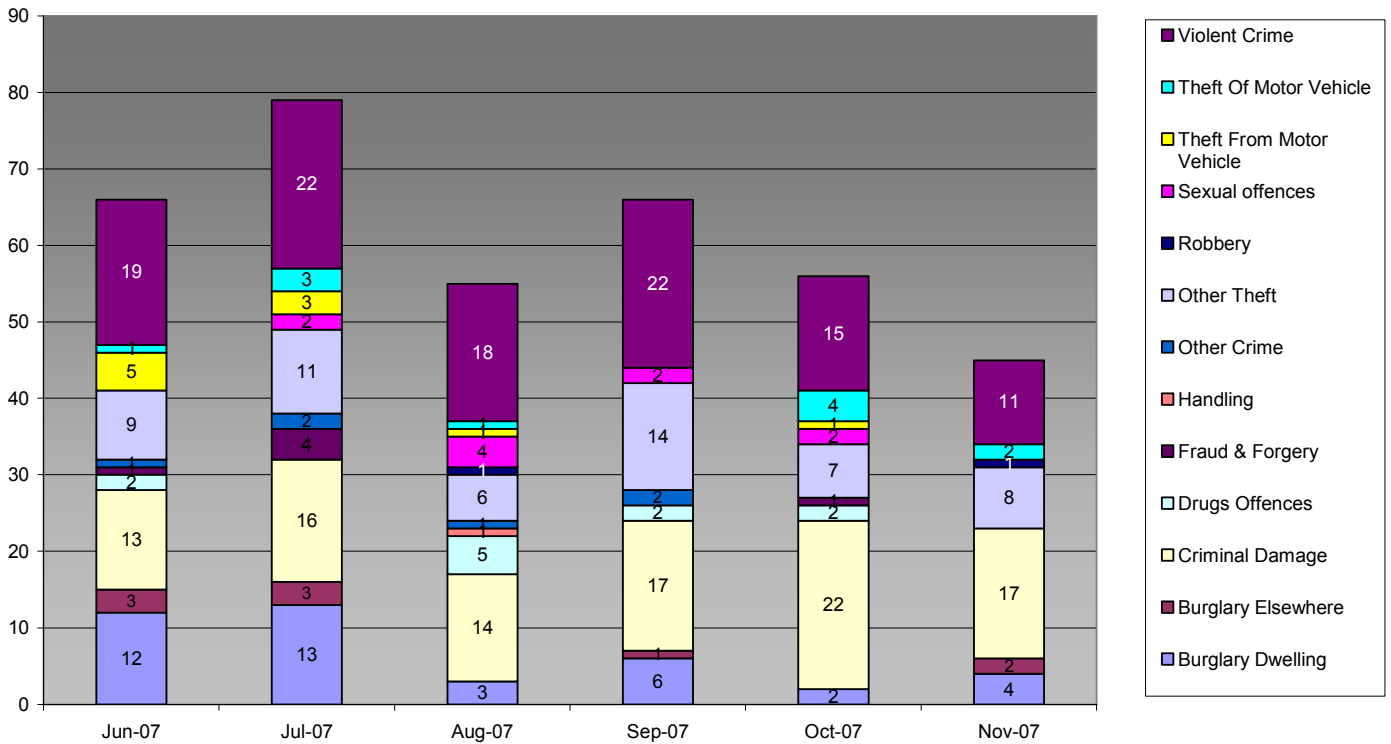
Stratford Analysis: Area of Study



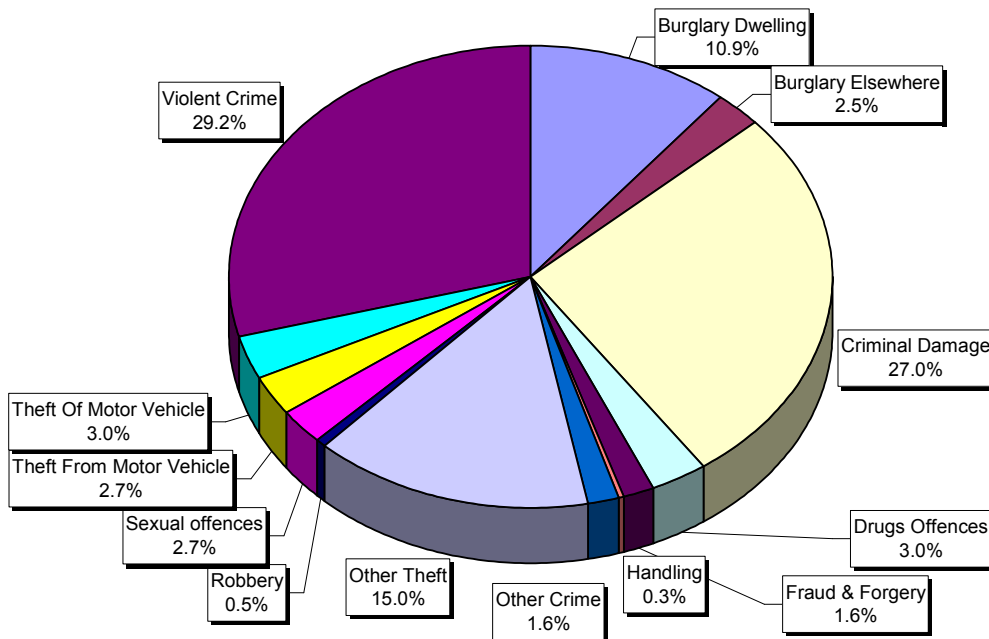
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Appendix 1 – Stratford Terrace – Area of study

Crime by Month



Crime by Type

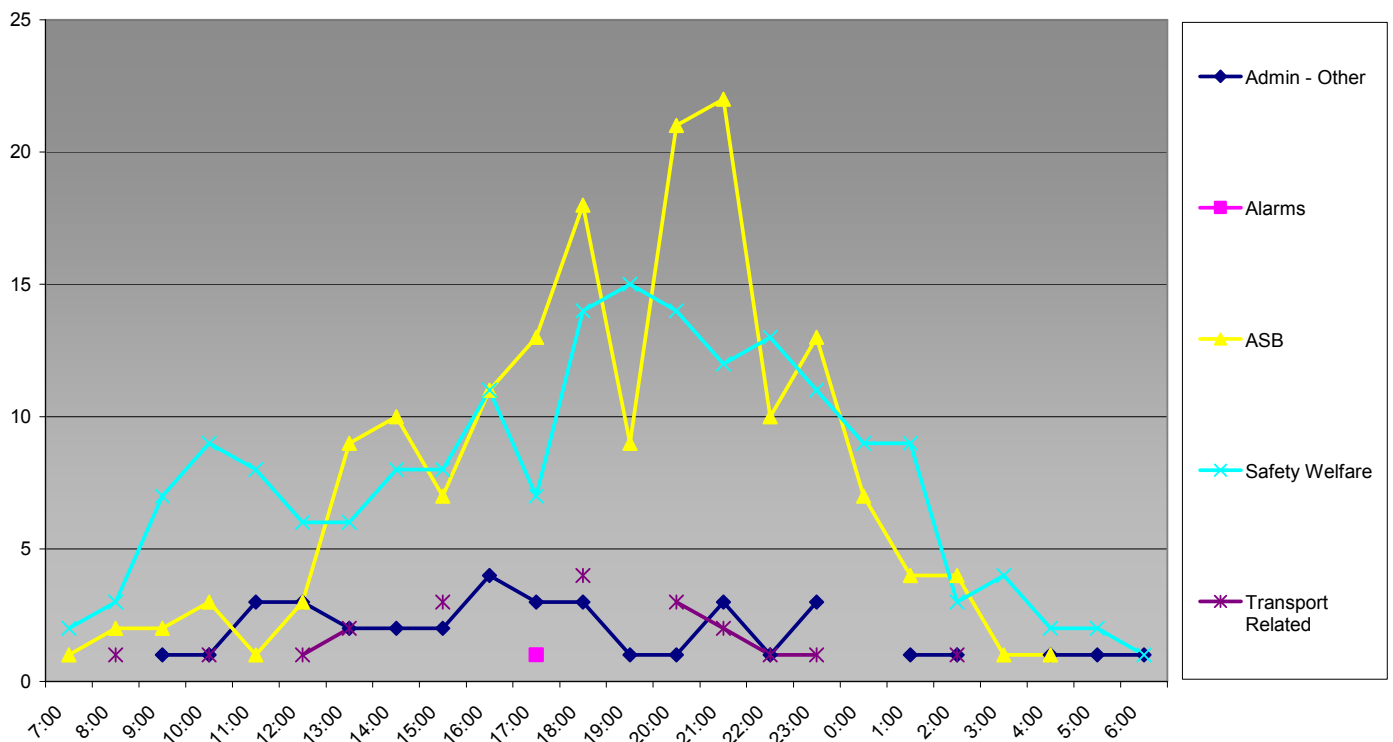


Appendix 1 – Stratford Terrace – Area of study

Rates Per 1000 Households or Population against the Leeds District

	Area Rate	Leeds Rate
Burg Dwell per 1000 Households	37.9	32.6
Criminal Damage per 1000 Pop	39.5	29.9
Drugs Offences per 1000 Pop	4.4	4.7
Vehicle Crime per 1000 Pop	8.4	17.1
Violent Crime per 1000 Pop	42.7	22.6
ASB per 1000 Pop	137.2	71.2

Incident by Hour (for 3 month period)



Appendix 1 – Stratford Terrace – Area of study

There have been 156 crimes and ASB incidents during the time period since 1st July 2007.

Street Name	ASB - 999 Hoax	ASB - Drunkenness	ASB - Emerg Serv Hoax	ASB - Loutish Behaviour	ASB - Mal Comms	ASB - Neighbour Disp	ASB - RR Offence	ASB - Street Drinking	ASB - Veh Related Nuis	Crime - Burglary	Crime - Criminal Damage	Crime - Drugs	Crime - FSMV	Crime - Harassment	Crime - Other Notif Crime	Crime - Other Theft Hand	Crime - S4 POA	Crime - S5 POA	Crime - Sexual	Crime - Theft of from Veh	Crime - Violence	Grand Total
Westbourne Place				15	1					3	4				1	2	1				2	29
Bude Road		1		2		2				3	2					3	1		1		1	16
Westbourne Mount				7							2				1						2	12
Stratford Terrace				3							3	1		2							2	11
Brompton Mount				3				1	1	1	2										2	10
Trentham Grove				3		1		1													3	8
Trentham Avenue	1	1		1		2			1												1	7
Westbourne Avenue				2		2				1	1	1										7
Stratford Street				1							3							1			1	6
Trentham Place			1			1					1				1	1					1	6
Trentham Row				3															1	1		6
Brompton Row									1				1	1							1	4
Brompton View				1							1				1						1	4
Clovelly Grove											1				1				1		1	4
Clovelly Place				2																	2	4
Lodge Lane											1									1	2	4
Brompton Terrace				2	1																	3
Clovelly Avenue				2					1													3
Clovelly Row									2												1	3
Brompton Grove						1													1			2
Rowland Road													1		1							2
Ingleton Street														1								1
Lady Pit Lane											1											1
Sunbeam Terrace				1																		1
Trentham Street							1															1
Westbourne Street				1																		1
Grand Total	1	2	1	49	2	9	1	2	1	13	22	1	1	2	5	11	2	2	4	2	23	156

Loutish behaviour is the main problem for the area with 49 offences across the 6 months

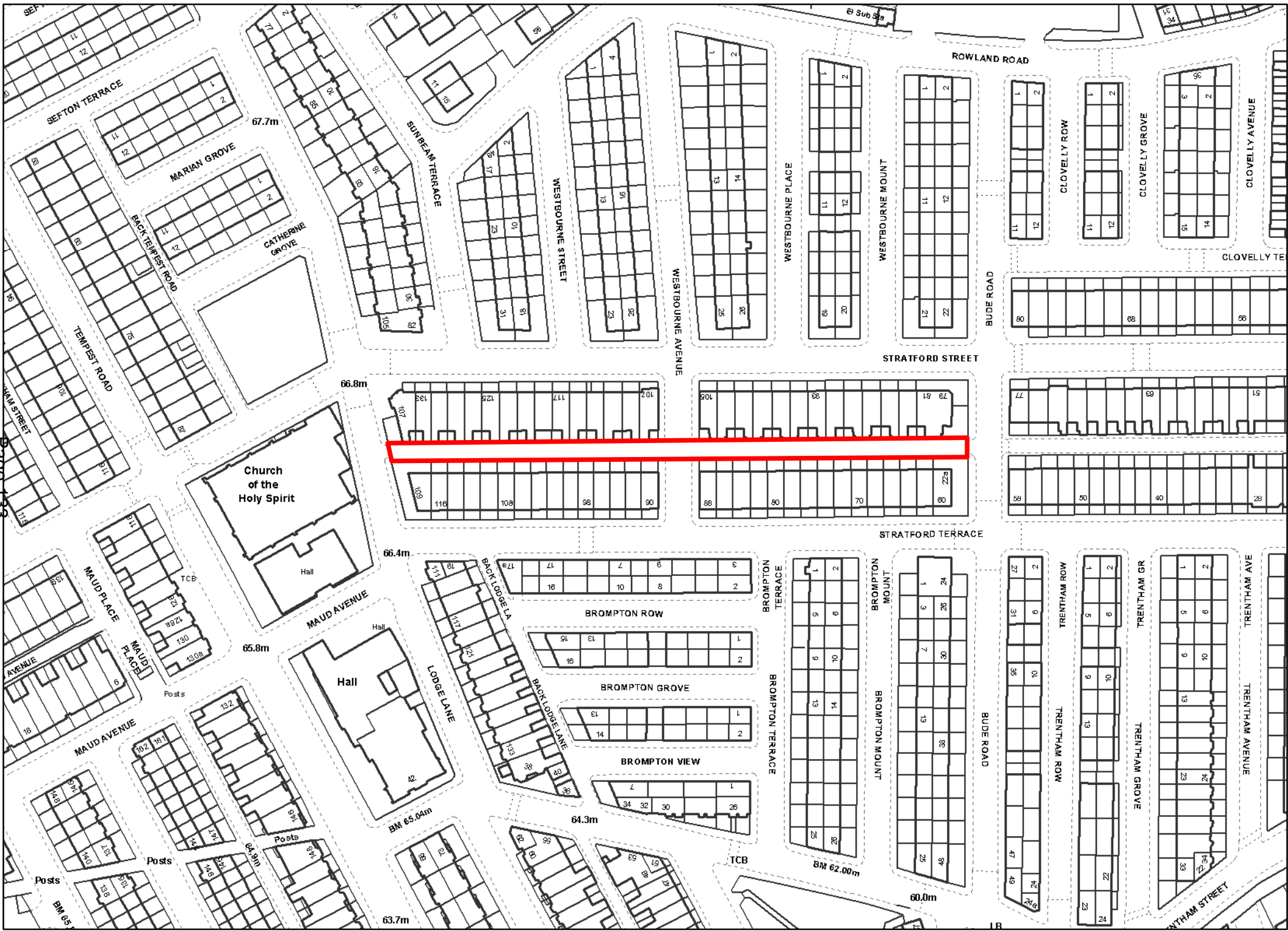
Westbourne Place experiences the most crimes and incidents (29).

The table below highlights crimes and ASB incidents reported that are specifically related to residences on Stratford Terrace, Beeston.

There have been 8 crimes and 3 instances of ASB during the 6 months on Stratford Terrace.

- 4 calls relate to vehicles and damage to vehicles.
- There were 4 calls as a result of altercations between known individuals.
- 2 calls detail nuisance youths
- 1 call relates to damage to premises.

ASB - Loutish Behaviour	Crime - Criminal Damage	Crime - MV	Crime - Other Notif Crime	Crime - Violence	Grand Total
1					1
			1		1
1					1
				1	1
1	1				2
	1	1	1	1	4
3	3	1	2	2	11



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In Attendance:

Councillor David Blackburn(Chair)
Councillor Frank Robinson
Danny Jackson – Bradford Council – Rights of Way Service
Graham Ramsden – British Waterways
Ruth Bull – Aire Action Leeds
Elaine Hill – WLCP&GG coordinator, Leisure Services
Phil Staniforth – Leisure Services
Ann Chadwick – Wade's Charity
Nick Rose – Wade's Charity
Marva Pryce – Leeds Voice
Gil Threadgould – LCC, West Leeds Development Worker
Alan Simpson – White Rose Forest
Karen Smith – Student
Paul Monaghan – Groundwork Leeds
Peter Meredith – Friends of Houghly Gill
Greta Meredith – Friends of Houghly Gill
Peter Taylor – Ramblers HSS
Anne Tegan – Horse Rider
David Badger – Pudsey Link
Rod Wood – Calverley Millennium Way
Diane Maynard – West Leeds Walk Group
Tom Maynard – Allotments
Hon Ald. Brook Nelson – A.C.R.T.

Apologies:

Cllr Andrew Carter
Martin Farrington – Leisure Services
Calverley Allotments Association
Friends of Horsforth Hall Park
Rodley Nature Reserve Trust Ltd
PC Rob Atkin and PC Steven Clark

1) Opening Remarks

Cllr Blackburn welcomed everyone to the meeting

2) Progress with objectives

a) Management Plan

Bus routes – It was suggested that bus timetables and routes are displayed on boards, but disregarded as routes numbers and timetables change. It was suggested by Elaine that advertising a contact number for Metro would be a good idea.

Peter Taylor stated that significant investment needs to be made to maintain and improve rights of way. Councillor Blackburn added that resources have already been increased but this was something the Leader of Council would need to bear in mind in the 2008/9 budget if possible.

b) Interpretation

Historical text for phase 4 of the trail (Woodhall Lake – Roker Lane) provided to all attendees. This is attached as appendix a. All comments to be submitted to Elaine Hill before the 18th of January 2008.

c) Pudsey Visitors Centre

The visitors centre will be converted to become the West Leeds Country Park Visitors Centre. Work will start in the New Year. The Centre will incorporate native plant, animal and aquaria displays as well as a space for voluntary organisations to utilise. A model of the space was displayed at the meeting. The venture is seen as a springboard to getting people interested in outdoor activities.

It was suggested that of bee hives and bugs could be incorporated.

Phil Staniforth stipulated that all animal wildlife would only be displayed after consultation with the Council Vet.

3) Section 106 agreement funding for projects

West Leeds Country Park Section 106 projects Action Plan was issued to all attendees. This is attached as appendix b

Elaine Hill asked for any inspirational ideas for investment to be forwarded to her. It was remarked upon by Ann Chadwick that no funding has been earmarked for the lower part of the Green Gateway.

British Waterways commented that they are keen to work with the Council to improve tow paths and would welcome some funding.

4) White Rose Forest

Guy Thompson, coordinator for the White Rose Forest initiative provided a summary of the project the initiative is undertaking. The purpose of this was to demonstrate that the WLCP&GG is part of the city region green infrastructure. A limited number of copies of the information booklet are available and copies may be obtained on request.

5) Any other business

Cyclists on tow paths – Peter Taylor asked Graham Ramsden of British Waterways why they don't insist that cyclists fix bells to their bikes. *Graham clarified that all cyclists should have a permit to even cycle on British Waterways land as it is private property and to obtain and retain the permit they should abide by the rules and guidelines set down.*

The next meeting will be held on Monday 10th March 16:00 at the Civic Hall.

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**West Leeds Country Park and green Gateways leaflet
Phase 4.
Woodhall Lake to Cockersdale.**

Pudsey.

Much of this route follows valleys running below the high ground of south and west Pudsey. Indeed the elevated position of Pudsey on the landscape is reflected in Domesday records, in which Pudsey is recorded as *Podeschesaie*, derived from *Pudoc*, an Old English personal name, and *heagh* meaning high ground. Atop this high ground is St Lawrence church, which is set on one of the highest points in Pudsey, a vantage point which means the church can be seen for much of our route.

Built in 1821 at a cost of £13 360, the church was consecrated in 1824. It is also gives it's name to The Pudsey St. Lawrence Cricket Club, which has a reputation for producing high quality Yorkshire and England players, including Sir Leonard Hutton, Herbert Sutcliffe and Major William Booth.

By the mid eighteenth century Pudsey was renowned as the largest clothing village in the West Riding, specialising in the manufacture of woollen cloth. Although by the 1870's spinning and fulling of the wool was carried out using steam power, weaving was still undertaken by hand. Eventually worsteds, which are stiff, smooth woollen fabrics, were also manufactured, and by 1912, there were twenty two mills operating in Pudsey.

Pudsey Bear, who first appeared on our screens in 1985 as the Children In Need mascot and official logo, was created by Joanna Ball, a graphic artist for the BBC, who is Pudsey born and bred and who's grandfather, Alderman Irvine Ball, was a past Mayor of the Borough of Pudsey.



1. Thornbury.

On a wet and windy October day in 1903, a taste of the Wild West chugged into town. Bill Cody, better known as Buffalo Bill arrived in Thornbury on the 5th October, with his Wild West extravaganza, complete with an entourage of 800 costumed performers, 500 horses and the Deadwood Stagecoach, all loaded into 49 railway carriages, pulled by four trains.

An eleven acre seated arena was set up on fields close to Leeds Road and 28 000 people arrived to watch battles and chases and demonstrations of sharp shooting.

Sadly the weather reined in the spectacle planned for the following day, as persistent rain turned the arena into a mud bath and wind collapsed a house onto part of the arena.



Bill Cody

2. Duckett's Crossing and Wildgrove Farm.

The level crossing which bisects the southern end of Dale Road is named after Richard Duckett, who was originally from Kettlewell in the Yorkshire Dales. In 1845 Duckett bought the Wildgrove estate, moving into the existing farmhouse which lay at the end of the access track. Later, he built himself a larger, grander property, situated on the other side, to the west of the track, and both properties can still be seen today. In 1854 a railway track was laid by the Leeds Bradford Railway Company, which crossed over his access road. In order to allow Duckett access to his farmstead, a level crossing was installed, which remains today, and is still known as Duckett's Crossing.

3. Gibraltar Mill.

Gibraltar Mill, which stood in the valley bottom below the hamlet of Gibraltar, or Delph End, was originally built in 1801 by Joseph Thackrah of Woodhall and Thomas Fairfax Carlyle. The mill was only Pudsey's second steam powered wool scribbling and fulling mill, and, up until the mid nineteenth century, was the largest mill in Pudsey. It was also the first mill in Leeds to install gas lighting, fitted after the building burnt down in 1812, after which Thackrah rebuilt the to a higher standard. This and a second adjacent mill became a major supplier of army uniforms, and employed a large local workforce. The mill remained standing until the 1930's, though the cobbled packhorse track, which led down to the mill from the Wildgrove estate, remains intact and accessible.

4. Uppermoor Quarry

Uppermoor Quarry is said to have been worked for hundreds of years, and was possibly medieval in origin. Certainly the sandstone it produced was used in the construction of the Moravian settlement, commenced in the mid 1740's, as well as many of the buildings in western Pudsey. The stone, which was celebrated as a hard, good quality building stone was known locally as "nell".

Much of Upper Moor was enclosed around 1813, following an Enclosure Act passed two years earlier. In 1730 part of the moor had been used for horseracing, and even earlier evidence of human activity existed in the earthworks which were visible prior to enclosure. It is likely that these basic fortifications were associated with Parliamentary troops, entrenched on the moor during skirmishes in Leeds and Bradford at the height of the English Civil War in the 1640's.

5. Smaleswell Mill and Buffy Lump

To the south of Gibraltar Mill, adjacent to Tyersal Lane stood Smaleswell Mill. This woollen mill was first constructed in 1821, but then rebuilt between 1844 / 45. On the night of 9th November 1867 a fire broke out in the boiler house of the mill, which at this time was owned by James Hargreaves, a cloth manufacturer. Despite the attendance of Pudsey's brand new fire engine, which was successful in extinguishing the fire, the roof fell in and £500 worth of damage sustained.



Buffy Lump

Buffy Lump cottage, a tiny cottage, which featured on the 1817 enclosure map, lay close to Smaleswell Mill. Built from stone taken from Uppermoor Quarry, this tiny remnant of Pudsey's past remains, almost unaltered, today.

6. Fox and Grapes Pub and Smaleswell Quarry

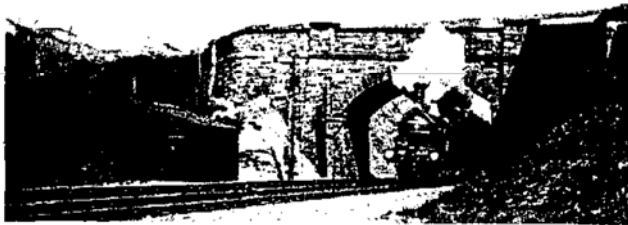
Formerly known as the Smaleswell Inn, the Fox and Grapes pub stands above the road which led down to Smaleswell Quarry in a little hamlet known in the nineteenth century as Jumbles Well.

By 1866 the pub had taken on its current name, and the landlord was Henry Horatio Hallas, who also owned the nearby Bankhouse public house. Hallas was followed by William Henry Clarkson, who was also the owner of Smaleswell Quarry. No doubt the

quarrymen he employed spent much of their wages in the pub he owned. Following a terrible accident in 1895, when a young girl fell to her death over the edge of Smalewell Quarry, the Fox and Grapes was chosen as the venue for her inquest.

7. The Greenside tunnel

In 1892 the Pudsey and Low Moor branch line, together with the quarter mile long Greenside railway tunnel opened. The tunnel entrance is situated just below the Fox and Grapes pub, adjacent to the bridge carrying the Smalewell Quarry track. The line continued west towards Bradford, travelling across Pudsey Beck along a man made embankment, said to be the largest of its kind in Europe. Many of the men employed in the construction of the railway took lodgings in and around Jumbles, and though the line disappeared in the 1960's, following Dr. Beeching's railway closures, the tunnel and embankment remain, testament to their hard work.



Train emerging under the bridge which carried the Smalewell Quarry track.

8. Bankhouse.

Although Bankhouse was originally known as Ulversthorpe, this fell out of use some 500 years ago, to be replaced in the eighteenth century by Lane End. When Moravian colonist arrived in the area in the 1740's, it was Bankhouse where they first settled, and a local man, Samuel Hills who became the first Pudsey man to be taken into the church.

9. The Bridle Roads - Scholebrook Lane (a) / Abey Lane (b) / Keeper Lane (c).

These old bridle routes hark back to a time when goods were moved around either by people on foot, or by mule. Indeed, Scholebrook Lane was nicknamed Jack Ass, in recognition of the pannier toting mules that carried coal to sell in the Pudsey area.

Keeper Lane, which runs down towards Pudsey from Bradford, was named after the gamekeepers cottage which was situated at the top on the lane. The track, which runs down to Hobroyd Bridge is picked up at the Leeds boundary by Abey Lane, named after Abraham Hutchinson, one time owner of Newstead House, which is situated at the top of the lane. The bridge takes it's name from Hobroyd Field in the

valley bottom, Hobroyd supposedly translating as the land cleared of trees where the hobgoblins lurk. Be warned !

10. Fulneck – The Moravian Settlement

In 1457 the first Protestant church was founded by Jan Hus in Bohemia, and it was from this that the Moravian Church found it's direct origins. Following a period of persecution, refugees, many from Moravia, were forced to find a new homeland. Help came from a nobleman Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf, who in 1727 opened land in Saxony, Germany to the Renewed Church, where a settlement, named Herrnhut was established.

England formed a regular embarkation point for Moravian missionaries leaving for the Americas and West Indies. Eventually members of the Moravian Church settled here too. One such colony was founded in the mid 1740's on the twenty-two acre Falneck estate, a site identified by Zinzendorf himself following a visit in 1743. Initially the settlers renamed the estate Lambshill, but later changed name again to Fulneck, after a town in Moravia.

Initially the Moravian brethren occupied cottages and buildings at Bankhouse, until their new settlement was completed in 1748. This initial building phase encompassed a chapel, accommodation for the brethren and sisters, and a school. In 1753 there followed a boarding school for boys, and two years later the Girls' School opened. Added to this was a shop, bakery and various workshops, all linked along a broad terrace, known as The Terrace, which overlooked the Tong valley

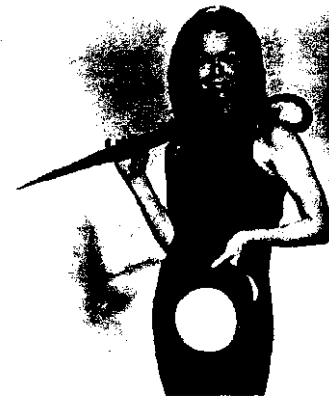
Today this linear settlement has changed little, although the school, initially established to educate the children of Moravian missionaries, has long since been open to all children. Past alumni include Herbert Asquith, Prime Minister between 1908 and 1916, chemist and Nobel Prize winner Robert Robinson, and the actress Dame Diana Rigg. There is also a museum, which is open to the public during the summer months.



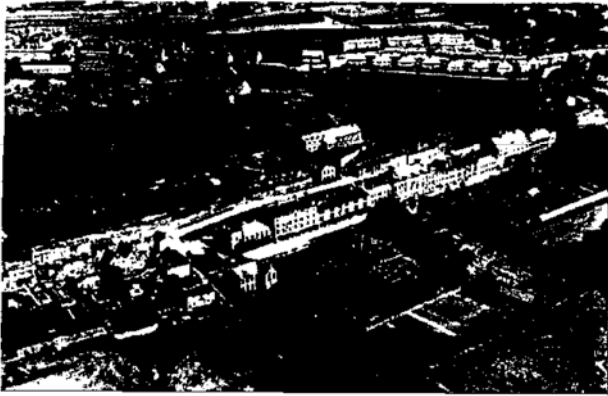
Herbert Asquith



Sir Robert Robinson



Dame Diana Rigg



Moravian Settlement – Fulneck (Around 1930)



Circa 1900 - The Terrace south front (Grade 1 listed) Showing the original Brethren's House in the foreground, and Sister's House at the opposite end, unusually, both are built of brick in the centre is the Grace Hall.

11. Sister's Wood.

The name *Sister's Wood* was given to this small, but well established, pocket of beech woodland by the Moravian settlers, and although named *Sister's Wood*, it was regularly visited by both the brethren and sister's, although on alternate days. Prior to the arrival of the Moravian settlers the woodland was called *Holdsworth's Wood*, named after the Holdsworth family who owned the Bankhouse Estate in the seventeenth century.

12. Fulneck Golf Course

Surrounding *Sister's Wood* is Fulneck Golf Club, which was established in 1892. The club was set up by the Reverend William Titterington, then Headmaster at the Moravian Boy's school, who, it is said, held the first meeting in his home. At this time

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West Leeds Country Park – Section 106 projects.

WLCP Action Plan.

- Bramley Fall – habitat augmentation to east of existing woodland, including encouragement of natural woodland regeneration. tree planting and hedgerow planting.
- Improve wheelchair access to rear of Armley Park, including the stepped bridge over the canal towpath by the marina.
- Improvements to key PRoW around the Country Park to bring them up to standard as part of the WLCP Green Gateways Trail, Leeds Country Way, Pudsey Link and Calverley Millennium Way
Including –
Bridleway No. 13 at Shell Lane, Calverley
Footpath No. 54 at Troydale
Bridleway No. 61 at Tyersal Lane, Pudsey.
Bridleway No. 76 at Scholebrook Lane, Bankhouse.
Bridleway No. 78 at Abey Lane, Fulneck
Footpath No. 79 at Dye House Lane, Fulneck
Footpaths No. 148,149 and 150 in New Farnley

Improvements to community parks, recreation grounds, designated nature conservation sites and local greenspace within the West Leeds Country Park, to bring them up to Green Flag standard, and to qualify Leeds Quality Parks.

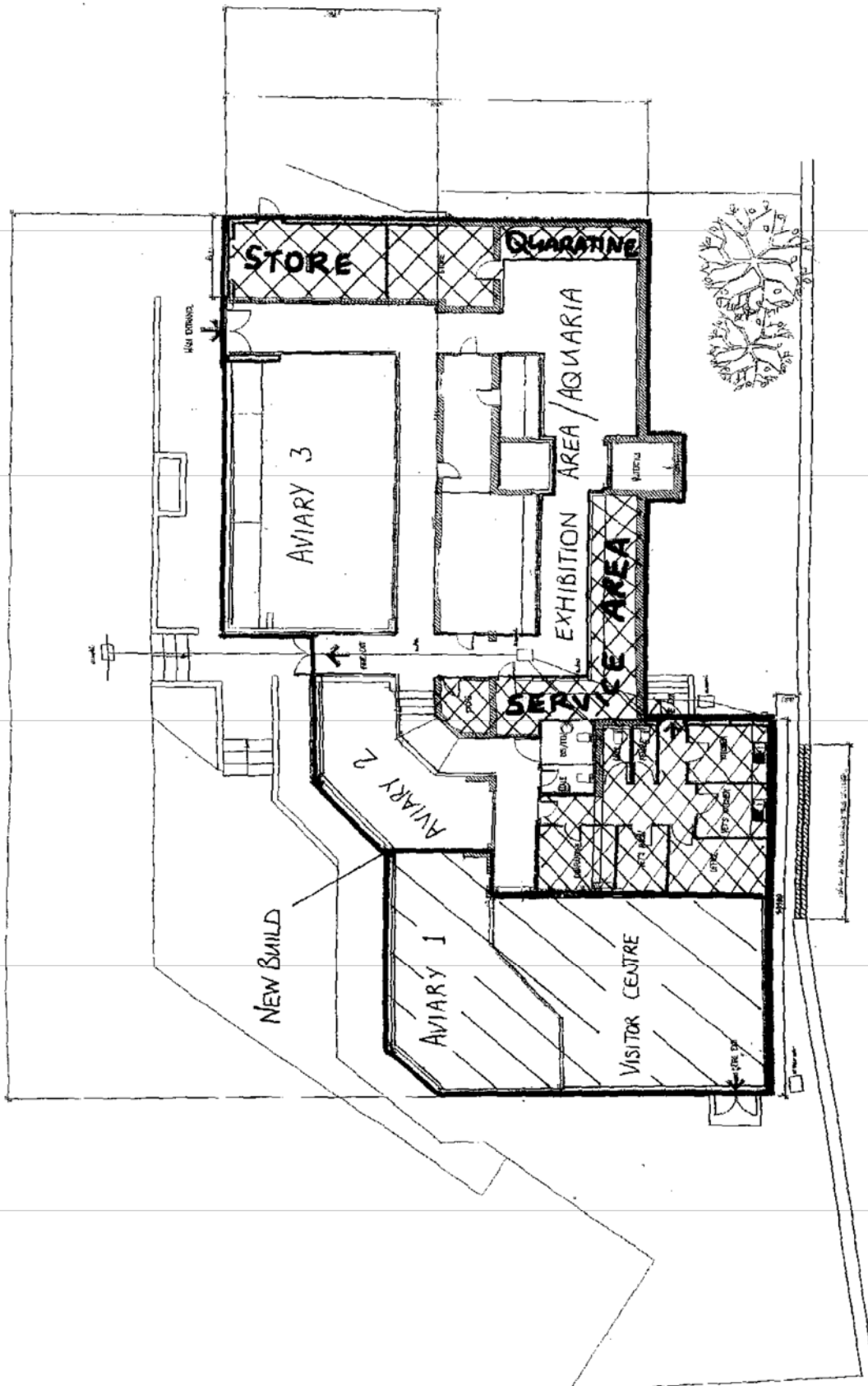
Examples of schemes include the development of -

- play areas for children of all ages.
- routes suitable for wheelchair users / mobility scooters.
- circular paths for use as healthy walking routes and installation of associated *Fresh-Air Fitness* outdoor exercise equipment.
- new nature conservation habitats such as wildflower meadow, hedgerow and wetland areas.

Sites to include -

Armley Park
Gotts Park
Kirkstall Abbey Estate
Bramley Fall Woods and Lower Fall LNA
Hawksworth Wood LNA
The Outwood LNA (Newlay Woods and Rein Road)
Horsforth Hall Park
Hunger Hills LNA
Swaine Woods LNA
Calverley Lane Picnic Site
Woodhall Lake LNA

Brookfield Recreation Ground
Tyersal Park
Post Hill LNA
Roker Recreation Ground
Nan Whin's Wood LNA
Farnley Hall Park
Farnley Fish Pond LNR
Old Farnley Recreation Ground
New Farnley Park
New Farnley Recreation Ground
Farnley Balancing Reservoir
Silver Royd (Wortley Beck)



FLOOR PLAN AS PROPOSED 1:100

Improving access to the English coast Secretary of State announces decision on way forward

On 27th September 2007 at the Labour Party Conference in Bournemouth, Secretary of State, Hilary Benn, announced that the Government intends to legislate so that the public will have the right to walk around the English coast for the first time.

This decision follows the end of the consultation on options to improve access to the English coast. We expect to publish a report on the responses to the consultation before the end of the year.

See http://www.labour.org.uk/conference/hillary_benn for the full transcript of Hilary Benn's Conference speech.

The consultation document can be found on the Defra website at:
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/coast-access/index.htm>.

Closure of coastal consultation email address

From 1st November 2007, the email address that was set up to receive responses to the consultation will close: coast.consultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk. If you wish to send an email about improving access to the coast, **from now on**, please use the following email address:
access@defra.gsi.gov.uk

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Summary of Responses to the Consultation on Proposals to Improve Access to the English coast

The summary of responses to the *Consultation on Proposals to Improve Access to the English Coast* has now been published. The summary can be found on the Defra website at the following address:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/coast-access/index.htm>

The document summarises all the views expressed in response to the consultation and the accompanying partial Regulatory Impact Assessment. Defra would like to thank all those individuals and organisations who took the time to respond.

From analysis of the consultation responses the Government concluded that the overall weight of the responses supported Natural England's recommendation that new legislation was the best way forward for improving access to the coast. It has therefore been announced that the Government intends to legislate so that the public will have the right to walk around the English coast for the first time.

We are now developing the detail of the legislation and will be seeking to identify an appropriate opportunity to introduce coastal access legislation. Further work is being undertaken to look at some of the main areas of concern that came out of the consultation. These included issues of liability, costs, compensation, estuaries and higher rights.

For further information please telephone 0117 372 8449 or email our shared e-mail account: access@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Defra's Information Resource Centre will supply copies of consultation responses. If you would like to request a copy of any of the responses please telephone 020 7238 6575 or send an email to: defra.library@defra.gsi.gov.uk

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RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION ON AIRE VALLEY AREA ACTION PLAN BY LAF CHAIR

SECTION 1: PREFERRED OPTIONS

PO1: Employment Uses

1A: Identify 200 hectares of land for employment (non-office) use: 3 = Don't Know

1B: Identify areas 2,3,4,5,6,8,and 9 to provide the 200 hectares of employment land: 3 = Don't Know

1C: Support the concept of business clusters within the Leeds City Growth Area: 3 = Don't Know

1: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Option for Employment Use? Please indicate which part you are commenting on.:

PO2: Housing

2A: Promote new housing within mixed use developments in locations at: i: Clarence Road (Area 1): 2 = Agree

2A: Promote new housing within mixed use developments in locations at: ii: former Copperfields College (Area 2A): 2 = Agree

2A: Promote new housing within mixed use developments in locations at: iii: Knowsthorpe (Area 2B): 2 = Agree

2A: Promote new housing within mixed use developments in locations at: iv: Hunslet Riverside Area (Area 2A): 2 = Agree

2B: Promote new housing development in the eastern part of Aire Valley in the form of two 'sustainable communities' at: i: Skelton Business Park (part of Area 11): 3 = Don't Know

2B: Promote new housing development in the eastern part of Aire Valley in the form of two 'sustainable communities' at: ii: Bellwood, Skelton Grange and Stourton Riverside: 3 = Don't Know

2: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Option for Housing? Please indicate which part you are commenting on.: LLAF supports the delivery of high quality pedestrian and cycling links to existing facilities, and the waterfront including new and enhanced bridge crossings.

PO3: Town Centre Uses

3A: Promote appropriate support services in neighbourhood centres at Copperfields College (Area 2A), Knowsthorpe (Area 2B), Bellwood (Area 6) and Skelton Business Park (Area 11).: 3 = Don't Know

3B: Allow for development of offices at Skelton Moor Farm (Area 5B) and Leeds Valley Park (Area 9).: 3 = Don't Know

3C: Allow for existing leisure & tourism consents and identify the following locations as preferred areas of search to locate new leisure and tourism facilities of an appropriate scale: i: Clarence Road (Area 1), Hunslet Riverside South (Area 2C): 3 = Don't Know

3C: Allow for existing leisure & tourism consents and identify the following locations as preferred areas of search to locate new leisure and tourism facilities of an appropriate scale: ii: Stourton North (Area 9): 3 = Don't Know

3C: Allow for existing leisure & tourism consents and identify the following locations as preferred areas of search to locate new leisure and tourism facilities of an appropriate scale: iii: Skelton Business Park (Area 11): 3 = Don't Know

3: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Option for Town Centre Uses? Please indicate which part you are commenting on.:

PO4: Transport

4A: Implement a balanced package of transport measures to support travel plans by providing a mix of public and private investments: 2 = Agree

4B: Propose a range of physical transport improvements (the full list can be found in the Preferred Options document) such as park and ride, rapid transit, cycleways and a new rail halt on the Leeds to Castleford Line: 2 = Agree

4C: Identify opportunities for non-road freight distribution facilities at Neville Hill sidings and an inland dock on the Aire & Calder Navigation at Stourton (Area 6E): 3 = Don't Know

4D: Consider a range of transport policy measures (the full list can be found in the Preferred Options document) such as: i: 40% of journeys by non-car modes of travel: 3 = Don't Know

4D: Consider a range of transport policy measures (the full list can be found in the Preferred Options document) such as: ii: restrictions on number of car parking spaces for new development: 3 = Don't Know

4D: Consider a range of transport policy measures (the full list can be found in the Preferred Options document) such as: iii: restrictions on the use of East Leeds Link Road to through traffic: 3 = Don't Know

4D: Consider a range of transport policy measures (the full list can be found in the Preferred Options document) such as: iv: requirements for developers to contribute to sustainable transport : 2 = Agree

4: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Option for Transport? Please indicate which part you are commenting on.: 4B LLAf supports provision of an integrated cycle and pedestrian network through the area connecting to the Trans Pennine Trail, Wykebeck Valley Trail \and Rothwell Greenways. 4D (iv) LLAF supports developer contributions to sustainable transport infrastructure. General comment on the Proposals Map. Definitive footpaths should be added to the Map. Definitive bridleways are included.

PO5: Waste Management

5A: The potential of Aire Valley as a location for a Sustainable Energy Resource Park (SERP) and/or other waste management facilities should be recognised in the AAP.: 3 = Don't Know

5B: Knostrop WWTW will remain in its current location. The implementation of measures that will reduce odour emissions from Knostrop WWTW to such a level that will allow for the development of a wider range of uses on adjacent sites are promoted.: 3 = Don't Know

5: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Option for Waste Management? Please indicate which part you are commenting on.:

PO6: Recreation

6A: Create a new riverside park at Bellwood (part of Area 6).: 2 = Agree

6B: Promote related recreational uses of the water corridor.: 2 = Agree

6C: Provide for new pedestrian and cycle bridge crossings over the river and canal.:
2 = Agree

6D: Promote opportunities to create several new parks.: 2 = Agree

6: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Option for Recreation?
Please indicate which part you are commenting on.: The LLAF fully supports the opportunities for improving public access and associated infrastructure that this Option will deliver. LLAF also supports new recreational uses of water corridor including canoeing, rowing in addition to enhancing existing uses such as walking.

PO7: Design And Environment

7A: The overall principles of design based on use, movement, space and form.: 3 = Don't Know

7B: Streets, Spaces and Buildings by exploiting design opportunities, using high quality materials and preserve historic buildings.: 3 = Don't Know

7C: Landmarks & Gateways by exploiting opportunities for landmark buildings, public art and landscape features.: 3 = Don't Know

7D: Community Safety by adopting 'secured by design' principles and ensures that spaces around buildings enhance natural surveillance and reduce crime.: 3 = Don't Know

7E: Landscaping by incorporating larger growing tree species.: 3 = Don't Know

7F: Biodiversity by protecting existing habitats and identifying opportunities for habitat creation.: 3 = Don't Know

7G: Sustainable Design and Construction by maximising energy efficiency and minimising waste, incorporating on-site renewable energy production and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.: 3 = Don't Know

7: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Option for Design and Environment? Please indicate which part you are commenting on.:

SECTION 2: CHARACTER AREA PROPOSALS

Using both the character area frameworks and accompanying plans please indicate if you agree or disagree with the proposals set out in the character areas.:

Area 1: Clarence Road: 2 = Agree

Area 2a: Copperfields: 2 = Agree

Area 2b: Knowsthorpe: 2 = Agree

Area 2c: Hunslet Riverside South: 2 = Agree

Area 2d: National Road: 3 = Don't Know

Area 3: Cross Green Industrial Park: 2 = Agree

Area 4: Knostrop: 3 = Don't Know

Area 5a: Thornes Farm: 3 = Don't Know

Area 5b: Skelton Moor Farm: 3 = Don't Know

Area 6: Bellwood, Skelton Grange & Stourton Riverside: 2 = Agree

Area 7: Thwaite Mills: 2 = Agree

Area 8: Stourton Corridor: Please Select

Area 9: Stourton North: 2 = Agree

Area 10: Leeds Valley Park: 2 = Agree

Area 11: Skelton Business Park: 2 = Agree

CA: Do you have any other comments about the Preferred Options for the Character Area Proposals? Please indicate which area you are commenting on.: LLAF supports Area 1 1) 1st and 2nd bullet points. Area 2B 1) 4th bullet point. 2) 1st and 2nd bullet point. Area 2C 2) 3rd and 4th bullet points. Area 3 1) 3rd and 4th bullet points. Area 6 1) 6th and 7th points in 2nd bullet point. 4) 3rd, 4th and 6th bullet points. 5) 1st and 2nd bullet points. Area 7 1) and 4) Area 8 1) 3rd bullet point. Area 9 3) 4th bullet point. Area 10 2) 1st bullet point. Area 11 2) 4th bullet point.

SECTION 3: SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

We are required to produce a Sustainability Assessment of the preferred options. Could you please comment in the box below on the following questions: 1.Do you have any comments of the methods used to appraise the policies and the results produced? 2.Are these any sustainability effects which you feel have not been appropriately identified? 3.Do you have any other comments on the sustainability appraisal?:

The Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP), a statutory document under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, and currently emerging, should be added to Appendix 3 under Local Policies. AVL AAP policies should be in conformity and not conflict with the RoWIP. The RoWIP will assess: a) the extent to which rights of way meet the present and likely future needs of the public; b)the opportunities provided by local rights of way for exercise and other forms of open air recreation and enjoyment; c) the accessibility of local rights of way to blind and partially sighted persons and others with mobility problems. The RoWIP will also include a Statement of Actions proposed for the management of local rights of way and for securing an improved network of local rights of way with regard to matters dealt with in the assessment.