



WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

**Meeting to be held in the *New Wortley Community Centre,
40 Tong Road, Leeds LS12 1LZ on
Thursday, 9th April, 2009 at 9.00 am**

***Note: A map of the venue for this meeting is attached at the back of this agenda.**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

J Harper	- Armley;
A Lowe	- Armley;
J McKenna	- Armley;
D Atkinson	- Bramley and Stanningley;
T Hanley	- Bramley and Stanningley;
N Taggart	- Bramley and Stanningley;

Co-opted Members

Hazel Boutle	- Armley Forum
Stephen McBarron	- Bramley & Stanningley Community Forum
Morgan Pugh	- Armley Forum

**Agenda compiled by:
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**Maria Lipzith
247 4353**

**Area Manager: Steve Crocker
Tel: 395 0966**

A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF COUNCIL FUNCTIONS AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

There are certain functions that are defined by regulations which can only be carried out at a meeting of the Full Council or under a Scheme of Delegation approved by the Full Council. Everything else is an Executive Function and, therefore, is carried out by the Council's Executive Board or under a Scheme of Delegation agreed by the Executive Board.

The Area Committee has some functions which are delegated from full Council and some Functions which are delegated from the Executive Board. Both functions are kept separately in order to make it clear where the authority has come from so that if there are decisions that the Area Committee decides not to make they know which body the decision should be referred back to.

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded)</p> <p>(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 25, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Chief Democratic Services Officer at least 24 hours before the meeting)</p>	
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report. 2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information. 3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:- <p>RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-</p>	

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
3			LATE ITEMS To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration (The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes)	
4			APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
5			DECLARATION OF INTERESTS To declare any personal/prejudicial interests for the purpose of Section 81(3) of the Local Government Act 2000 and paragraphs 8 to 12 of the Members Code of Conduct	
6	Armley;		OPEN FORUM / COMMUNITY FORUMS In accordance with Paragraphs 6.24 and 6.25 of the Area Committee Procedure Rules, at the discretion of the Chair a period of up to 10 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Area Committee. This period of time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair. No member of the public shall speak for more than three minutes in the Open Forum, except by permission of the Chair. It is also intended to submit under this item for information/discussion purposes the minutes of the local community forum meeting. The following set of minutes are enclosed: (a) Armley Community Forum meeting held – 17 th February 2009.	1 - 4

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
7	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley;		MINUTES - 12TH FEBRUARY 2009 AND ANY MATTERS ARISING To confirm as a correct record the attached minutes of the meeting held on 12 th February 2009 and to consider any matters arising from the minutes.	5 - 14
8	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley;		COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES - UPDATE FOR INNER WEST LEEDS (COUNCIL FUNCTION) To receive and consider the attached report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods and to receive an update from NPT Inspector Mark Bownass, West Yorkshire Police, regarding Community Safety issues within the Inner West Leeds area over the past eight weeks and Detective Inspector Simon Atkinson will present a DVD on the use of capture houses and cars within the division.	15 - 18
9	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley;		INNER WEST AREA COMMITTEE WELL-BEING FUND UPDATE (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION) To consider a report of the Director of Environment & Neighbourhoods to update Members on the current amount of capital and revenue funding committed and available via the Area Committee Well-Being Budget for Wards in the Outer West area. The report also seeks approval for new projects commissioned by the Area Management Team and ratification of those applications agreed in principal for 2010.	19 - 30
10	All Wards;		LEEDS HOUSING STRATEGY (COUNCIL FUNCTION) To note a report submitted by the Housing Strategy Commissioning Section given Area Committee Members an overview of the emerging Leeds Housing Strategy and links to the Outer West area.	31 - 36

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
11	All Wards;		<p>RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT: UPDATE AND COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY (COUNCIL FUNCTION)</p> <p>To consider a report by the Executive Project Manager, Head of Performance & Communications (Environmental Services) describing the current status of the Residual Waste Project in order to project and to consult with Area Committees on the proposed communication and community engagement strategy for Residual Waste Treatment PFI project.</p>	37 - 42
12	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley;		<p>FUEL POVERTY REDUCTION TARGET SUPPORT (COUNCIL FUNCTION)</p> <p>To consider a report submitted by the Fuelsavers Team – Health and Environmental Action Service seeking support for actions and targets to be established at a local level to eradicate Fuel Poverty in the City in line with Leeds Affordable Warmth Strategy 2007 to 2016.</p>	43 - 52
13	Armley;		<p>TOWN CENTRE MANAGER UPDATE (COUNCIL FUNCTION)</p> <p>To consider a report by the West North West Leeds Area Manager providing an update on the Town Centre Manager's progress, priorities and work programme and proposals for revitalising Armley Town.</p>	53 - 58
14	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley;		<p>AREA MANAGER'S REPORT (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION)</p> <p>To note a reported submitted by the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods informing Members of the progress on a number of projects in Inner West Leeds as determined by the Area Delivery Plan 2008/2011, which in turned is governed by the Area Committees functions and roles as agreed by the Executive Board in July 2008.</p>	59 - 68

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
15	Bramley and Stanningley;		<p>PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING ON THE BROADLEA ESTATE - 12 MONTH REVIEW (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION)</p> <p>To consider a report by the West North West Area Manager providing an overview of the progress, successes and challenges that arose from the Participatory Budgeting pilot scheme on the Broadlea Estate.</p>	69 - 74
16	Bramley and Stanningley;		<p>BROADLEAS NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPROVEMENT PRIORITY AREA - 12 MONTH REVIEW (EXECUTIVE FUNCTION)</p> <p>The West North West Area Manager submitted a report to brief Members on the progress, achievements and challenges currently facing the Broadleas estate and provide an overview of the partnership working approach which is currently in operation.</p>	75 - 80
17	Armley; Bramley and Stanningley;		<p>DATES, TIMES AND VENUES OF AREA COMMITTEE MEETING 2009/2010</p> <p>The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report to request Members to give consideration to agreeing the dates and times of their meetings for the 2009/2010 municipal year which commences in May 2009.</p>	81 - 86

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Agenda Item 6



Environments & Neighbourhoods West Leeds Area Management

Armley Community Forum

Date: 17th February 2009

Present:

Cllr Harper(Chair), Cllr A Lowe, Cllr McKenna, A Pickering, A Paul, E Bowes, H & D Boutle, H Shields, C Way, M Stead, B & K Draper, J Grainger, R & M E Bruce, A Willis, J K & J P Newsome, W Gregg, D Maynard, T Maynard, J gill, J Ramell, J Ford, H Gardiner, I Penman, B & M Guthrie, P Kempster, K Lemm, D Peck, B Holmes, S Hellewell, R Edwards, J Hopkins, G Litherland & M Litherland.

		ACTION
1.00	Welcome	
1.01	Cllr Harper welcomed everyone to the meeting	
2.00	Apologies	
2.01	P Ellis, D Newsome, E Rayworth, & B Nelson.	
3.00	Minutes of the last meeting	
3.01	The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record, with an amendment to 4.01.	
4.00	Matters arising	
4.01	Councillor Harper noted that the first meeting of the West Leeds Gateway Stakeholder Advisory Group had taken place and was well attended. At the first meeting a presentation was given to provide the context for the physical and social and economic improvements in the West Leeds Gateway area and enabled partners to make contributions on the draft priorities. Armley Forum was represented at this meeting.	
5.00	Community Safety Update and Tension Monitoring – Local Policing Team	
5.01	<p>Inspector Bownass attended the meeting and gave an update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Police Pledge, PACT (Police and Communities Together) –The Pledge will be used across the division to build on strong partnerships between the police and the local community. The nationally agreed Policing Pledge sets out in clear terms the minimum standards of service people can expect from West Yorkshire Police. And every Neighbourhood Policing Team across the Force will be adding three pledges specific to their patch. A poster was distributed about forthcoming PACT meetings, at these meetings residents will identify three priorities which they would like the Neighbourhood Policing Team to concentrate on. The team will report daily about progress towards these priorities via the Force's NPT website and email. Councillors requested information on the PACT meetings covering the Wythers area. Work in the Aviaries has been undertaken, tackling issues relating to drugs. Disposal Order in the Cedars area – A Disposal Order is being sought for the Cedar area, the final approval is being sought from Safer Leeds. Notices will then be advertised in the local press. Mounted officers and operational support officers trained in disposal orders will be operating in the area to launch the dispersal order. 	Police
6.00	Planning Update	
6.01	Sarah Hellewell, Planning, attended the meeting and reported that planning applications are down at the moment.	
6.02	With regard to 2 Branch Road, LCC have issued three enforcement notices.	
6.03	There is a new number for planning, the local number for Armley is: 2224409.	

6.04	A query was raised regarding Roscoe Terrace, as to whether any flats have been built. Sarah Hellewell will investigate and feedback to the forum.	SH
7.00	Jobs and Skills	
7.01	<p>Jane Hopkins attended the meeting from Jobs and Skills Service, Leeds City Council, who work with partners to provide learning, training and employment opportunities to people city wide.</p> <p>JH informed Armley Forum members that Job Shops are located across Armley, in Armley One Stop Centre, Strawberry Lane community centre and New Wortley community centre, with a further one planned for the Wyther House. They provide support to people who find it difficult to access training and employment. The number to contact to access this service is: 2633333.</p> <p>They work with those people 18 plus out of work, providing information, advice, support to get back into work, for example what jobs are available, help with applications and interview skills, skills, and opportunities for learning. They also offer services to support people with mental health issues, physical disabilities and offenders leaving the prison, to get back into work.</p> <p>Councillor McKenna noted the need to improve the outputs for young people particularly in the area of apprenticeships.</p> <p>Councillor Harper raised the need to encourage volunteering as a good way of getting people back into work.</p>	
8.00	Canal Clearance Volunteers	
	<p>Alison Pickering, Area Management Team circulated posters publicising a canal tidy up, which is taking place on the 10/11/12th March along the Leeds Liverpool Canal. The canal tidy up is being organised by BTCV, a conservation charity.</p> <p>Alison Pickering urged anyone interested in volunteering to help with the tidy up to call: 2742335, and go to Hollybush on the morning of the days for 9.30am (Broadlane, Kirkstall, LS5 3BP). If people can't come for the whole day, they can meet BTCV along the canal throughout the day. They will be the ones with the big green tabards on. They are looking for as many volunteers as possible, from young people aged 16 and over upwards.</p>	
900	AOB	
9.01	<p>A number of Highways queries were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One resident raised a suggestion relating to the design of A647 HOV Lane, the Highways officer present agreed to pass this on. • Issues were raised relating to Tong Road, including speeding cars; this has caused significant damage to parked cars a number of times. Highways have been looking into this, and ways in which to resolve the issues. To be updated on at the next meeting. • A further issue was raised relating to Tong Road and the state of the pavements, Councillor Lowe is going to look into this. • A number of residents raised issues regarding the lack of gritting on the pavements. Councillor Harper said that she had asked Highways to grit some areas around older peoples housing in Armley where it was bad. As a rule Highways do not grit public footpaths. • A resident raised issues relating to the A647 road, near Greenhill Road, in that traffic is always backed up every evening. Chris Way, Highways explained that they are looking into this, and are designing a scheme. Updates will be brought to future 	<p>Highways, CW</p> <p>Highways, CW</p> <p>Cllr Lowe</p> <p>Highways, CW</p>

	<p>meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A survey has been done on Canal Road to consider the need for a crossing. It did not meet the criteria for a crossing; however they are looking into the possibility and resources for something more informal. • Enforcement of the HOV - Local people feel that this isn't being enforced. Councillor Harper will raise this at the next meeting with the Police. 	Cllr Harper
10.00	Date & time of next meeting	
10.01	Tuesday 17th March 2009, 7.00pm, Armley One Stop Centre	

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WEST (INNER) AREA COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor J Harper in the Chair

Councillors T Hanley, A Lowe, J McKenna
and N Taggart

CO-OPTEEs: H Boutle - Armley Forum
M Pugh - Armley Forum
S McBarron – Bramley and Stanningley
Forum

64 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Denise Atkinson.

65 Declaration of Interests

The following interests were declared at the meeting:

Councillor J Harper declared a personal interest in her capacity as a Member of West Leeds Gateway (Agenda Item 8 – West Inner Well-Being Budget Fund – Minute 70, Appendix 4(i) refers) and as Chair of the West Leeds Gateway Stakeholders' Advisory Group (Agenda Item 9 – Area Manager's Report - Minute 69 refers)

Councillor T Hanley declared a personal interest in his capacity as a Director of Bramley Elderly Action (Agenda Item 8 – West Inner Well-Being Budget Fund – Minute 70, Appendix 4(i) refers) and Fairfields LAMP (Agenda Item 16 – Minute 76 refers).

Councillor N Taggart declared a personal interest in his capacity as a Panel Member of West North West ALMO (Agenda Item 13 – Leeds Housing Strategy – Minute 73 refers) and (Agenda 16 – Fairfields LAMP – Minute 76 refers).

Councillor A Lowe declared a personal interest in her capacity as a Director of West North West ALMO (Agenda Item 13 – Leeds Housing Strategy - Minute refers) and (Agenda Item 16 – Fairfields LAMP – Minute 76 refers).

Councillor J McKenna declared a personal and prejudicial interest in his capacity as a Care Worker at Armley Helping Hands (Agenda Item 8 – Inner West Well-Being Budget (Appendix 4) – Minute 70 refers) and a personal interest in his capacity as a Care Worker at Armley Helping Hands (Agenda Item 8 – Inner West Well-Being Budget (Appendix 2) – Minute 70 refers) The Councillor also declared a personal interest in his capacity as a Panel Member of West North West ALMO (Agenda Item 13 – Leeds Housing

Strategy – Minute 73 refers) and (Agenda 16 – Fairfield's LAMP – Minute 76 refers).

Morgan Pugh – Armley Forum Co-optee declared a personal and prejudicial interest in his capacity as Chair of Armley Helping Hands (Agenda Item 8 – Inner West Well-Being Budget (Appendix 4) – Minute 70 refers).

66 Minutes - 11th December 2008 and Matters Arising

Minute 54 – Inner West Area Committee Well-Being Update

Referring to Resolution (b)(v) regarding the Summer Bands in the Park application, the Chair informed the meeting that she had a meeting with the officer and was now happy to release the money for funding this application. The Chair was pleased to announce that it had now been agreed with the officer to make this into a bigger event and it is intended to hold a dog show and to include rides for young children at this event.

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2008 be confirmed as a correct record.

67 Open Forum / Community Forums

The Chair made reference to the provision contained in the Area Committee Procedure Rules for an Open Forum session of up to 10 minutes at each ordinary meeting of an Area Committee to allow members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the remit of the Area Committee. On this occasion, no members of the public were present.

A copy of the minutes of the Armley Community Forum meeting held on 16th December 2008 and Bramley & Stanningley Forum meeting held on 27th November 2008 were attached for Members information.

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the Armley Community Forum meeting held on 16th December 2008 and Bramley & Stanningley Forum meeting held on 27th November 2008 be noted.

68 Inner West Area Committee Well-Being Fund Update

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing an update on the current amount of capital and revenue funding committed and available for the 2008/2009 financial year.

Rebecca Boon, Project Officer presented the report and responded to Members' questions and comments.

During consideration of the Marketing & Events Budget for Town and District Centre application, Councillor Hanley, in his role of Enterprise and Economy Champion for West Inner, felt this was an excellent idea and was only too

happy to be of assistance. He informed the meeting that funds may be obtained for this project through Business Link Week.

Dawn Newsome, Armley Helping Hands presented the application for funding the Armley Helping Hands Community Transport Scheme (Appendix 4 – Resolution (b)(iii) refers) and left the room with Councillor McKenna and Morgan Pugh (see note below), while Area Committee Members made a decision on this application.

Steve Crocker, West North West Area Manager informed the meeting that this would be Rebecca Boon's last meeting for West Inner as both her and Gavin Forster would, in future be working on projects relating to the Outer West Area Committee.

On behalf of the West Inner Area Committee, the Chair thanked Rebecca and Gavin for all their hard work for West Inner over the last few years.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the current amount of Revenue Well-Being fund available for 2008/09 is £6,412.15 and Capital Well-Being fund is £66,800 be noted.
- (b) That the following decisions be taken in respect of new projects and requests for funding from the Well-Being Budget contained in appendices attached and listed in Paragraph 3.1 of the submitted report:

Capital

- (i) Notice Boards for Bramley & Rodley – Approved £5,000. Members requested Officers provide them via email with a photograph of the proposed black and gold trimmed notice boards.

Revenue

- (i) 'Spring Together' Celebrating Diversity Event – Approved £2,700.
 - (ii) Marketing & Events Budget for Town and District Centre – Approved £5,000.
 - (iii) Armley Helping Hands Community Transport Scheme – Approved £7,823 (2009/2010) for one year only, subject to appropriate funds being available. Members also requested that a six month update report be submitted on the request by Members that Armley Helping Hands work closely with Bramley Elderly Action on community transport provision.
 - (iv) Planting of Henconner Lane Roundabout, Bramley – Approved £1,500 (2009/2010), subject to appropriate funds being available.
- (c) To note that to date £44,000 (Revenue) and £20,000 (Capital) had been allocated from the Well-Being Budget for the financial year 2009/2010.
 - (d) That the list of Small Grants made since the last meeting as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report be noted.

- (e) To note that out of the £10,000 Small Grant budget approved for 2008/2009 there was a balance of £3,948.68 remaining and that out of the £2,500 Skips Budget approved for 2008/2009 there was a balance of £320.00 remaining.

Note: Due to their personal and prejudicial interests in (b)(iii) above, both Councillor J McKenna and Morgan Pugh – Co-optee Armley Forum left the room during consideration of this item (Minute 65 above also refers).

69 Area Manager's Report

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report to inform Members of the progress made on a number of projects in Inner West as determined by the Area Delivery Plan 2008/2011 governed by the Area Committee's functions and roles as agreed by Executive Board at its meeting held in July 2008.

Steve Crocker, West North West Area Manager highlighted the point that following a review with Members of the outcomes and performance to date of the themed meetings it had been decided that the Health and Wellbeing Open Forum would be presented at both the Armley and Bramley & Stanningley Community forum meetings in order to encourage community engagement.

The Area Manager also informed the meeting that a detailed report on the Council's procurement approach to the Leeds Waste Strategy would be submitted to the next Area Committee meeting. Members sought clarification that the Strategy included plans for the proposed requirement for alternative methods for the disposal of food waste from household bins as by 2010 it would be illegal for the disposal of food waste on landfill sites as it causes methane emissions.

Members expressed their concern that in future there may be no centrally funded Neighbourhood Wardens for the Inner West area. In response, Steve Crocker informed the meeting that the Area Management Team are pursuing other avenues for the temporary funding of these posts and that he will submit an update report at a future meeting.

With regard to the Conservation Area Review, the Area Manager informed the meeting that an update report on the new conservation area in Armley and Bramley area will be submitted to a future meeting of this Area Committee.

Members congratulated the Headteacher at St Bartholomew's Primary School for all her hard work and dedication, especially the recent work on the Field of Dreams project at the school.

RESOLVED - That the progress of the various projects outlined in the report and the comments now made be noted.

70 Community Safety Issues, Inner West Leeds

The Committee considered a report and update on Community Safety issues in the Inner West Leeds area over the past eight weeks. Inspector Jon Glennon from the West Inner Neighbourhood Policing Team, together with Gill Hunter, Area Community Safety Co-ordinator (West Leeds) gave an extensive update in relation to the following:

- The success of the four day burglary and vehicle crime initiative in Armley and Bramley which was funded by the Area Committee. It was reported that a DVD had been made while undertaking this initiative and

Members requested that a copy of the DVD be emailed to each Ward Member.

- The planned reassurance mapping for the Wyther estate in Armley.
- The launch of the police pledge focusing on local priorities within neighbourhoods in Inner West (this included going out and speaking to people in the local community to ask what they felt were the priorities in the area). As usual these were generally burglary, anti-social behaviour and vehicle crime.

Members requested that they be informed of any future dates, times and venues the Police and partnerships intend to give update reports on this initiative in order that Ward Councillors be given the opportunity to attend.

- The proposals for a Dispersal Order for the Cedars estate in Armley.

Inspector Glennon outlined the continuing problems of anti-social behaviour within the Tong Road, Carr Crofts, Armley Town Street and Wesley Road, Leeds 12 and the need for a Dispersal Order. It was also intended that news of the Dispersal Order be published through the local media.

Ward Members were in agreement that this action needed to be taken and also expressed their concern that excessive drinkers were still spilling out on to the Armley Town Street area as early as 10.00 a.m. and were concerned that shopper, especially the elderly were being harassed.

Gill Hunter informed the meeting that this matter would be raised at the next Inner West Multi-Agency meeting.

- The success of the police initiatives in the Inner West Leeds area over the Christmas and New Year period.

The Chair thanked Inspector Glennon and Gill Hunter for their attendance and congratulated them on the success of their recent initiative undertaken within the Inner West Leeds area, especially over the Christmas period.

RESOLVED –

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Thursday, 9th April, 2009

- (a) That the contents of the report and the comments now made be noted.
- (b) That this Area Committee supports the proposal for a Dispersal Order to assist the police in tackling Anti-social Behaviour and associated crime on the Cedars estate in Armley.

71 Relationship and Report between Health and Environmental Action Service, including the Environmental Action Teams and Area Committee

Further to a decision of the Executive Board in November 2007 to extend and enhance the roles of Area Committees in terms of the operation of certain services in their areas, including Environmental Action Teams (EATs), the Committee received a report from the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods regarding how the Area Committee can help to influence the work carried out by EATs in their areas.

The following Officers were in attendance and responded to Members' questions and comments:-

Helen Freeman – Chief Officer - Health and Environmental Action Services
Keith Gibson – Head of Service - Health and Environmental Action Services

Detailed discussions ensued on the contents of the report and appendices.

In brief, the main areas of concern were:

- That the West North West wedge of the city was an extremely large area to be covered by only one Environmental Action Team.
- That the inner city areas have many different priorities to the outer Wards and it was felt that there was a need to retain the post of Neighbourhood Wardens, especially in the inner city areas.
- Referring to Appendix 6 – Summarised Service for each Area Committee. Members agreed with the "high impact high priority" issues were the correct ones for Inner West. Members expressed a particular concern at the need to prioritise noise levels (492) and Rodents (36).
-

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the report be received and noted.
- (b) Members agreed with the "high impact high priority" issues were the correct ones for Inner West.
- (c) That regular monthly meetings be arranged with at least one Member from each Ward being in attendance.
- (d) That the Area Committee receive six monthly update reports on the EATs work undertaken within the West Inner Leeds area.

72 Relationship and reporting between Streetscene Services and Area Committees

Further to a decision of the Executive Board in November 2007 to extend and enhance the roles of Area Committees in terms of the operation of certain services in their areas, including Streetscene, the Committee received a report from the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods regarding how this might work.

The following Officers were in attendance and responded to Members' questions and comments:-

Graham Hollings – Streetscene Manager – Refuse Collection Service
Roger Foyle - Area Development Manager – Environmental Services

Detailed discussions ensued on the contents of the report and appendices.

In brief, the main issues raised were:

- Members of the Area Committee expressed their concern that there would be a budget cut in the Streetscene service.
- It was felt that when the ALMO and Highways grassed areas, shrub beds and hedges contract be put out to tender, the contract should also include litter picking.
- Members thanked the Neighbourhood Wardens for the recent clean up work carried out on Armley Town Centre and that similar work was needed around Bramley Shopping Centre.

The Chair thanked Officers for their attendance.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the report be received and noted.
- (b) That regular quarterly meetings be arranged with at Ward Members.
- (c) That the Area Committee receive six monthly update reports on the Streetscene work undertaken within the West Inner Leeds area.

73 Leeds Housing Strategy

Note: In the absence of an officer from Housing Strategy and Commissioning Section, consideration of this report was deferred.

74 Update on New Wortley Action Management Plan (LAMP)

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted an update report On the New Wortley neighbourhood and its current position in the Indices of Deprivation (IoD) issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Alison Pickering, West Inner Area Management Officer gave an indepth presentation and reflected on the first draft of the LAMP over three years ago

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
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in response to the 2004 Indices of Deprivation, the work of the multi-agency officer group formed to deliver the plan and the reports to the West Leeds District Partnership and this Area Committee.

Local Ward Members felt they had made significant contributions to the community improvements over the years along, with the New Wortley Residents Association.

The Officer went on to progress and achievements and the challenges around education, health and employment and reminded Members that funding would run out for the community centre by the end of March 2009.

In terms of Crime Community Action Day in the evening of 13th March 2009 it is expected that quite a lot of tenants would also be present.

RESOLVED – That the report be received and noted.

75 Wythers Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) – Annual Review

The West North West Area Manager submitted an annual review report briefing Members on the progress, achievements and challenges currently impacting upon the Wyther estate and to provide an overview of the partnership working approach driving challenges and priorities.

Alison Pickering, Area Management Officer presented the report and responded to Members' queries and comments.

Councillor Lowe, Chair of the Wyther LAMP went on to explain the work carried out following the re-opening of Community House, especially in conjunction with Leeds Health Living Network on healthy eating and the cheap vegetables on sale there.

The Officer went on to explain the health schemes that are being looked at through the LAMP group area; crime; income deprivation effecting older people; education skills and training and community cohesion.

RESOLVED – That the report be received and noted.

76 Fairfields Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) – Annual Review

The West North West Area Manager submitted an annual review report briefing Members on the progress, achievements and challenges currently facing the Fairfields estate and to provide an overview of the partnership working approach that is currently in operation.

Alison Pickering, Area Management Officer presented the report and went on to explain partnership structure; the successful projects carried out with the help of the close working relations with the multi-agency partners; education and the projects involving Bramley Primary School to encourage the children

to appreciate and have pride in their local neighbourhood; crime; health; housing and the usual problems surround the community centres.

RESOLVED – That the report be received and noted.

77 Community Engagement Calendar of Events

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report seeking Members approval for a timetable of events which will enable the Area Committee, with the support of the Area Management Team, to implement a calendar of wide-ranging communication and engagement activities throughout 2009.

Alison Pickering, Area Management Officer presented the report and reminded Members of the 'What's the Big Idea' engagement event to be held on 26th March 2009 in the Bramley & Stanningley Ward and on 21st April 2009 in the Armley Ward.

RESOLVED - That the calendar of communications and engagement activities for Inner West Leeds in 2009 as outlined in the submitted report be approved.

78 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Thursday, 9th April 2009 at 5.00 p.m. (Venue to be arranged)

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Originator: Gill Hunter

Tel: 2243200

Report of the West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Community Safety Issues, Inner West Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected: Armley Bramley and Stanningley <input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)		Specific Implications For: Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/> Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/> Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/>	
Council Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input type="checkbox"/>	Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/>	

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 This report introduces Inspector Mark Bownass from West Yorkshire Police who will give an update on Community Safety Issues in Inner West Leeds over the past 8 weeks and Detective Inspector Simon Atkinson who will present a DVD on the use of capture houses and cars within the division.
- 1.2 Inspector Bownass will also provide information on operation Champion taking place on the 19th and 20th March on the Aviaries in Armley, an update on the Dispersal Order in the Cedars, and an up date on the Police and Community Together Meetings in Inner West.

2.0 Capture Houses and Capture Cars

2.1 Capture House

This is a rented house made up to look like an occupied property with furniture, etc and a window left open. The property would have cameras and a trackable asset placed within it, such as a laptop with a tracking device. Once activated the Police are notified and are able to track the asset through the tracking device and Global Positioning Relay Service (satellite Navigation). This will show where the asset is taken and how long it is at a particular location (eg. If it is taken to someone's house then this is known and can be added to intelligence information about those handling stolen goods and investigated).

2.2 Capture Car

A car made up to look like any other car fitted with cameras and with a trackable asset on show (usually a laptop or Satellite Navigation device). Once activated the Police are notified and are able to track the asset through the tracking device and GPRS. This will show where the asset is taken and how long it is at a particular location (eg. If it is taken to someone's house then this is known and can be added to intelligence information about those handling stolen goods).

3.0 **Background Information**

- 3.1 The North West Divisional Community Safety Partnership is responsible for delivering actions to reduce crime and disorder in the West Wedge. It is made up of representatives from key statutory agencies.

4.0 **Main Issues**

- 4.1 Community Safety is one of the priority areas for the Area Committee. Regular reports are received from West Yorkshire Police on key issues and activity in the Inner West Area.

5.0 **Implications For Council Policy And Governance**

- 5.1 Tackling crime and disorder and addressing the fear of crime is a top priority for the citizens of Leeds as evidenced by previous consultation undertaken on a citywide and local level.

- 5.2 The citywide community safety partnership, Safer Leeds, has identified a number of key priority themes for 2008 – 2011 these are:

- Creating safer environments by tackling crime;
- Improving lives by reducing the harm caused by substance misuse;
- Supporting victims and reducing the risk of victimisation;
- Reducing offending and managing offending behaviour;
- Improving community confidence and public satisfaction;

Locally delivered actions will contribute to these priorities. In addition Operation Champion has been rolled out throughout the city and will be targeting hot spot areas by Police division.

6.0 **Legal And Resource Implications**

- 6.1 The West Area Management Team includes an officer with specific responsibilities for Community Safety who co-ordinates activity and acts as the link officer with West Yorkshire Police.

7.0 **Conclusions**

- 6.1 Crime and Community Safety is a priority for the Area Committee, and a representative from West Yorkshire Police, North West Division, attends the Inner West Area Committee meetings to provide a regular update on key issues.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 Members are asked to note the update from West Yorkshire Police

Background Papers

- Police and Local Authorities Consultation Document for the dispersal of Groups and the removal of under 16s from the area. Section 30 Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 .

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Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Inner West Area Committee Well-Being Fund Update

Electoral Wards Affected:
Armley
Bramley & Stanningley

☐ Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

☒

Community Cohesion

☒

Narrowing the Gap

☒

Council
Function

☐

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

☒

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

☐

Executive Summary

This report provides details of the amount of well-being capital and revenue funding available for the financial year 2009-2010, and an update on commitments already made. It also provides details of any remaining monies from financial year 2008/09. Members are asked to note this information, comment on any new applications and consider them for approval.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

- 1.1 This report seeks to update members on the current amount of capital and revenue funding committed and available via the Area Committee Well-Being Budget for wards in the Inner West area. It seeks approval for new and continuing projects commissioned by the Area Management Team.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The capital and revenue allocation for 2008-09 for Inner West is:

Capital Allocation	2008-2009	£ 72,512
Revenue Allocation	2008-2009	£ 150,440

- 2.2 The amount of revenue funding to carry forward into 2009/10 is **£14,212** . The amount of capital funding to carry forward is **£41,600**.

3.0 Well-Being Budget 2009/10

- 3.1 The Well-Being budget available for projects in 2009/10 has been calculated as follows:

Capital Allocation 09/10	£ 72,512
Capital carry forward from 08/09	£ 41,600
Total Capital	£114,112

Revenue Allocation 09/10	£153,450
Revenue carry forward from 08/09	£ 14,212
Total Revenue	£167,662

- 3.2 The Area Committee has already made a number of decisions to fund projects in financial year 2009/10. These projects are listed below:

Revenue Projects	Cost
West Leeds Sports Development Programme	£ 6,000
Worklessness Project	£40,000
Town Centre Manager	£20,000
I Love West Leeds	£24,000
Summer 2009 Bands in Parks	£ 1,200
Armley Helping Hands Community Transport Scheme	£ 7,823
Total	£99,023

- 3.4 The Committee in previous years has allocated a budget towards small grants and skips.

Revenue Projects	Cost
Small Grants	£10,000
Skips	£ 2,500
Total	£12,500

- 3.5 This leaves a remaining revenue balance of **£56,139** revenue funding to allocate in 2009/10.

- 3.6 The Area Committee has made one capital funding decision to date for the financial year 2009/10, this being:

Capital Projects	Cost
Henconnor Roundabout	£ 1,500
Total	£ 1,500

- 3.7 This leaves a remaining balance of **£112,612** capital funding to allocate in 2009/10.

4.0 New applications for Well-Being Funding

- 4.1 The following applications have been received for this Area Committee, detailed information regarding each application is attached as Appendices 1-3.

Large Grants					
Project Title	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Capital or Revenue	Appendix
Neighbourhood Wardens	£41,287			Revenue	1
Police off road motorcycle scheme	£1,497	£1,497	£1,497	Revenue	2
Operation Argus – Thermal Image Cameras	£4,500			Revenue	3

- 4.2 If the above proposals were supported, the remaining Well-Being revenue for allocation in 2009/10 would be **£8,855**.

5.0 Small Grants and Skips

- 5.1 A total budget of £10,000 was approved for small grants in 2008/09.
- 5.2 At the February Area Committee it was reported that there was a balance of £3,498 remaining for small grant allocation. The following small grants have been approved since the February Area Committee:

Small Grants	
Organisation	Amount
Irish History Month	£500
West Leeds Walking Publicity 2009	£400
International Women's Day	£150
Total	£1,050

- 5.3 There is a balance of £2,448 remaining for small grants which will be carried forward into 2009/10.
- 5.4 A total budget of £2,500 was approved for skips in 2008/09. There is a balance remaining of £100 which will be carried forward into 2009/10.

6.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 6.1 Well-Being projects support the actions contained in the Inner West Area Delivery Plan. Ward Members have been consulted on the Inner West Area Delivery Plan for 2008-11 and on the projects commissioned to deliver improvements to the area. The Area Delivery Plan contributes to the priorities of the Departmental, Council and Corporate Plans by aiming to create better neighbourhoods and confident communities.

7.0 Legal and Resource Implications.

- 7.1 The financial resource implications of well-being projects will be processed through the Area Management's well-being budget. Staff resources will be provided by Area Management and partner agencies.

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1 The well-being fund provides financial support for key projects in the Inner West Area.

9.0 Recommendations

- 9.1 The Area Committee is asked to:
- a) note the financial status of the Well-Being Budget, capital and revenue.
 - b) comment upon and approve where appropriate requests for funding for large grants, small grants and skips.

Background Papers

- No background papers

Area Committee Well Being Fund
Commissioning of Service

Appendix 1

Project Name: Neighbourhood Wardens

Lead Organisation: Area Management

Project Summary:

The New Wortley area of West Leeds has 2 Neighbourhood Wardens. The wardens have been in post since October 2004 following the significant success of the pilot to place wardens in the area to combat previously high levels of crime and anti social behaviour. These posts are jointly funded by West Inner Area Committee and West North West Leeds Homes and at present are temporary for 2 years. This application is to continue joint funding of 2 neighbourhood wardens posts in New Wortley for a further 12 months and to joint fund 1 post to cover the Wyther and Fairfield area with West North West Homes Leeds.

The funding for the temporary wardens posts on the Wythers ends in March 2009 as does funding through Stronger Safer Communities for the wardens post on the Fairfield estate.

In order to provide a wardens service to both the Wyther and the Fairfield, a request is being made to joint fund 1 warden post with West North West Homes Leeds with 50% of the time spent working on the Wythers and 50% on the Fairfield for a 12 month period.

This would mean that both areas that currently have a full time warden would continue to have some warden presence to tackle environmental, crime and community engagement work.

From the 2007 deprivation statistics the most deprived areas in West (by rank order) are New Wortley, followed by the Fairfield which previously was in the worst 5% of neighbourhoods, Heights, Upper Wyther and the Gilpins neighbourhoods – all these are in the worst 5% of deprived neighbourhoods nationally. The Broadlea estate has improved and is ranked in the 10% band of most deprived neighbourhoods. All of these areas have a neighbourhood warden, a Local Area Management Plan or a multi-agency Improvement group which has had an impact on reducing crime, making visible improvements to the local environment, developing multi agency events and action days in partnership with local residents.

Outcomes (please summarise the main outcome / output / benefit the project will achieve):

The overall aim of the Leeds Neighbourhood Wardens scheme is to assist in achieving better neighbourhoods and confident communities by reducing crime and the fear of crime, deterring anti-social behaviour, assisting in making environmental improvements and supporting the local community.

The success of the Wardens, service in West Leeds, is based on their flexibility to work when required, and the support and reassurance they give to the local community, which has seen improvements in the reduction of crime and Anti-social behaviour, as well as environmental improvements.

Over the last 2 years the wardens have been involved in a number of multi-agency projects as well as providing patrols and dealing with local issues on a daily basis. Some of the projects have included multi-agency tenancy sweeps in the high rise flats, working with the local PCSO on joint surgeries, attending police briefings, providing vital information that has assisted the police to target criminal activity/individual in relation to drugs, prostitution, nuisance motorbikes, criminal damage, burglaries and vehicle crime. The wardens have been instrumental in relation to intelligence for Operation Abbreviate focussing on drugs and prostitution in the New Wortley area, resulting in over 112 arrests over a 12 month period. Other operations include Champion the multi-agency operations to tackle Crime and Grime issues in Inner West and action days. The neighbourhood wardens have also organised environmental clean-up's and work with the environmental enforcement team targeting un kept gardens and fly tipping.

The wardens have develop links with the local schools, assisting in safe walking schemes and are also working with the attendance strategy service within Education Leeds on identifying children who are not attending school. The wardens help in identifying vulnerable residents and victims of crime such as domestic violence and hate crime and provide advice, support and reassurance. The neighbourhood wardens in New Wortley, Fairfield and the Wythers have assisted in the development and the delivery of project at the Wyther Community House, Fairfield Community Centre and New Wortley community centre working with community group such as youth services, young parents groups and access into training and employment opportunities. The wardens have strong links with the local PCSO's and meet them or have joint surgeries to discuss local issues and initiatives in relation to crime in their areas on a regular bases. Likewise the wardens work closely with the Neighbourhood Management Officer for West North West Homes Leeds in tackling issues of anti-social behaviour, identifying vulnerable tenants and environmental issues and projects.

The wardens also link into the probation service utilising the un paid service work on a weekly bases to undertake task such as painting projects, clearing of ginnels and footpaths and other types of environmental work, thus giving much needed additional resources to these area at no additional costs. The youth offending service regularly ask the wardens to assist them offering placements for young people to participate in reparation work.

The wardens have strong links with the community centre and attend residents meetings support local people and have assisted local people into drugs treatment services and into training and employment.

Currently there are funding issues with the warden service link to the short fall in the Neighbourhood Renewal Funding budget however it has been recognised that neighbourhood wardens provide a vital role in the community and act as a link to communities accessing other services in their areas.

With the review of the wardens service, any future changes to their role would be discussed with the funders.

All the Neighbourhood wardens are currently supported by the senior wardens and managed by the Area Community Safety Co-ordinator for West Leeds

Project Cost (please indicate how much the project will cost, how much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue):

Joint funding with WNWHL for 2 wardens post for New Wortley for 12 months = **27,525** = 1 post

Joint funding with WNWHL for 1 wardens post covering the Wythers and Fairfield's for 12 months = **13,762** = 50 % of costs

Total amount £41,287

*Please note should there be a restructure of the Neighbourhood Warden Service in the next twelve months, these posts will need to be considered in light of the outcomes to this service.

Identify which geographic areas will benefit and which Area Committee (Inner or Outer) you are applying to:

Inner Area Committee

State who will receive the funding for this project:

Sarn Warbis Project Manager LCC Regeneration Team

Area Committee Well Being Fund
Commissioning of Service

Appendix 2

Project Name: North West Division Off Road Motorcycle Scheme

Lead Organisation: West Yorkshire Police

Project Summary:

The aim of this project is to enhance the safety and quality of life of residents living in the North West Police Division area by providing an effective response to illegal off road motor cycling and to assist with high visibility patrols.

The police currently employ their powers under the No Insurance scheme and Section 59 of the Police Reform Act wherever possible and in conjunction with Park Watch to seize offending vehicles and prosecute their riders. However, by its very nature off road motorcycle offending can be difficult to combat. Foot officers and Police Community Support Officers are obviously unable to give pursuit to them and marked police vehicles are usually unable to follow across open ground. Being able to utilise the Off Road Bikes has assisted the division in combating other forms of criminality for example street drug dealing and street robbery, by providing a quick means of accessing hard to reach open areas where such offending occurs.

Similarly the vehicles are used in proactive operations to target burglary and vehicle crime.

WEST INNER

This is one of the busier wards with excellent intelligence from the PCSO'S resulting in numerous houses being hit to seize motorcycle's being used in ASB.

Arrests in this ward have been made from routine vehicle checks for non payment of fines disqualified drivers and wanted persons. Assistance has been given when warrants have been executed to prevent people making off.

Numerous motorcycles have been seized from all parts of this ward, High Visibility patrols means that offenders are loathe to bring their bikes out for fear of them being seized.

The main problem in this area being Armley by the Gas works and Bramley Fall Wood. Majority of calls to date have been around the gas works where the same youths are having bikes seized but always manage to find another one.

Outcomes (please summarise the main outcome / output / benefit the project will achieve):

In all ward's the motorcyclists issue Fixed Penalty Tickets both endorsable and non endorsable for all manner of offences, assist at the scene of Road Traffic Accidents 's and immediate calls where prudent. On numerous occasions due to there manoeuvrability in traffic and ability to ride through estate's and parks the off road motorcycles arrive first on the scene of many incidents of all type's and back up 'just in case'. They routinely patrol the canal towpath in an effort to reduce crime and raise public awareness and confidence in the Police.

Due to the nature of the Division and intelligence provided, certain ward's receive more attention than other's. Obviously the Police motorcycle's patrol mainly where known

problem area's are. If information or intelligence is not forthcoming the motorcycles patrol all wards on an equal basis.

The image of 2 Police motorcyclists and 2 Leeds City Council riders portrays a strong message to both the public and potential offenders. It shows a good inter agency approach to a problem that affects all constituents. Liaising with Birstall Urban Motorcycle Project for Youths has provided an avenue to direct youths and parents to, provide riding facilities that are safe and legal.

New links have been forged with the LCC Bikesafe team and the Lazer Centre at Armley.

Bikesafe aims are to encourage new riders to ride on the road in appropriate safety clothing as opposed to the 'Cool', tracksuit bottoms and Hoodies and to educate them to ride safely and not become a statistic. Bikesafe also aim at experienced riders to promote safer riding and further training in the form of Advance riding skill, First Aid and IAM courses. Liaising with Bikesafe promotes the Police to motorcyclists in a more positive manner as well as making a positive impact on motorcycle accident stats.

The Lazer centre is run by LCC and mainly takes young offenders off the streets and teaches them about the mechanics of motorcycles and safe riding practices off road in a safe environment. One of the courses runs for a period of 12 weeks and counts towards a Duke Of Edinburgh award. It is also hoped that this can be passed to local schools to as part of an out of school club with the emphasis being on the Duke of Edinburgh award.

The results of the funding have made a definite positive impact on figures re nuisance motorcycles Anti Social Behaviour and most other crimes where the Police motorcycles patrol. This has in turn made the quality of life better and safer for all constituents in the Division. It is hoped that in the months to come liaising with local schools in the Division will give an insight into legal and safe riding for students

Project Cost (please indicate how much the project will cost, how much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue):

**North West Leeds
Off Road Motorcycle Scheme**

Funding Bid	
2008/9	
Balance	7128
2009/10	
3 Year Plan - 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2012	
Lease Costs 2 Bikes £236 per month (36 months)	16992
Fuel for 2 Bikes (£1200 pa)	3600
Clothing/Maintenance (£1500 pa)	4500
Full Projected Cost	25092
Funding Request	25092

Balance from 0809	-7128
	17964
Funding Req'd for 3 year period	
NWI / NWIHP	4491.25
NW0	4491.25
WO	4491.25
WI	4491.25
	17965
BID TO EACH AREA COMMITTEE £4491.25 required as one off payment 01/04/09 or £1497 per area per annum payable <div style="float: right;"> 01/04/2009 01/04/2010 01/04/2011 </div>	

Identify which geographic areas will benefit and which Area Committee (Inner or Outer) you are applying to:

Inner West

State who will receive the funding for this project:

West Yorkshire Police

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Appendix 3

Area Committee Well Being Fund **Commissioning of Service**

Project Name: Operation Argus

Lead Organisation: North West Leeds Division – NPT West Inner & West Outer

Project Summary:

To deploy a Thermal Image Camera in the West Inner and Outer area of Leeds to detect cannabis farms which are set up in domestic-dwellings and to assist in apprehending suspects .

Outcomes (please summarise the main outcome / output / benefit the project will achieve):

The vast heat required by the lamps used in the process of cultivating cannabis, is easily detectable from the exterior of the building where the “Farm” is operating. The deployment of a thermal image camera is facilitated to this aim. The camera detects the highest temperature in any specific area that it is pointed in, & can also take thermal snapshots which in turn can be downloaded & used in evidence.

NPT Officer's have trialled such a device in all wards of the NWL Division, during the latter months of 2008. This had much success, several farms were detected which led to numerous arrests, and criminal proceedings.

The camera was also deployed during search warrants as it can detect where someone has been stood/sat etc for up to 1 hour afterwards, or if they are hiding in cupboards. It was also successful in tracing an escaped criminal who had hid in foliage during the night.

We are currently trialling a covert thermal camera in the West Leeds inner/outer ward.

Project Cost (please indicate how much the project will cost, how much Well Being Funding is sought and breakdown between capital and revenue):

The cost of each unit is £4,500 (excluding VAT). An application for 50% of the cost is going to the Outer Area Committee.

Total Cost from Inner West Area Committee £2,250 (excluding VAT)

The continuing costs thereafter will be met by NWL Division, I.E. deployment, maintenance & the battery charging.

Identify which geographic areas will benefit and which Area Committee (Inner or Outer) you are applying to:

West Leeds Inner and Outer Area

State who will receive the funding for this project:

West Yorkshire Police, Crime Reduction Office, NWL Division.

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Originator: Rob McCartney

Tel: 2243480

Report of Housing Strategy and Commissioning Section

Report to Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Leeds Housing Strategy

Electoral Wards Affected: Citywide

☒ Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity ☐

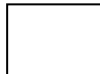
Community Cohesion ☐

Narrowing the Gap ☐

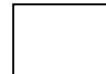
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Call in Details set out in the
report



Executive Summary

The Leeds Housing Partnership Executive decided in 2008 to review and update the existing Leeds Housing Strategy to ensure that it better reflected current housing challenges and wider strategic priorities. The strategy will be framed around the strategic vision: 'Creating opportunities for people to live independently in quality, affordable housing'. The strategy will have three key themes:

Increasing the supply of affordable housing

Improving housing quality

Promoting independent living

The final strategy draft will be presented to the Council's Executive Board in July 2009.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To give Inner West Area Committee members an overview of the emerging Leeds Housing Strategy and links to the Inner West area.

2. Background

- 2.1. The Leeds Housing Partnership is a multi-agency/partner body, affiliated to the Leeds Initiative that drives and oversees housing development and delivery in the city. The Partnership is responsible for the monitoring and review of the Leeds Housing Strategy. The Leeds Housing Partnership Executive decided in 2008 to review and update the existing Leeds Housing Strategy, to ensure that it better reflected current housing challenges and wider strategic priorities.
- 2.2. The updated Leeds Housing Strategy will need to respond to the housing affordability challenge in the city. The 2007 Housing Market Assessment identified that there was a need for 1889 affordable housing units to be developed on an annual basis to meet housing need. It was also identified that a household would need an annual income of £37,000 in order to purchase a starter level property in the city. The affordability challenge, whilst significant, had emerged during a period of economic buoyancy for the city and conformed to standard economic principles: demand for housing exceeded supply, precipitating price rises that were higher than wage inflation. Households have been assisted to secure affordable housing through an increase in housing supply and innovative home purchase initiatives. The recent economic downturn has exacerbated the affordability challenge. Mortgage lending practice has become more restrictive and prospective house buyers have been deterred from purchase through uncertainty over employment and falling house prices. This in turn is deterring developers from continuing and starting house building. The Council and partners will need to be flexible and innovative to respond to the evolving challenge.
- 2.3. The focus of the Leeds Housing Partnership is also shifting from meeting the decency standard towards the wider challenge of improving housing quality and sustainability. The Council and the Leeds ALMOs see the attainment of the decency standard on council housing as being an important milestone, rather than an end in itself. Longer-term investment options will need to be explored between the Council, ALMOs and tenants. The Council is also aware of the significance of the private sector housing challenge: 33% (over 81,000 properties) of private properties fail the decency standard with 13% (34,000) having one or more Category 1 hazards. The scale of the challenge is even more pronounced with regard to back-to-back housing, with 75% of the 19,500 units failing the decency standard and 45% having one or more Category 1 hazard. The 40% increase in energy prices has meant that the proportion of the Leeds population who are experiencing fuel poverty (more than 10% of household income spent on energy costs) has risen from 19 to 24%.
- 2.4. Enabling vulnerable people to achieve or maintain an independent living arrangement is a key housing, health and social care challenge. Services such as housing-related support, adaptations and assistive technology all contribute to promoting independent living. Modernising housing provision for older people and people with learning disabilities will promote independent living and enable vulnerable people to exercise greater choice and control over their lives. Providing personalised services that maximise prevention opportunities will also contribute to objectives relating to reducing homelessness, temporary accommodation placements and rough sleeping.

- 2.5. The Leeds Housing Strategy will also reflect the strategic themes, outcomes and improvement priorities set out within the Leeds Strategic Plan. The links between housing services and the 'Thriving Places' strategic theme are clear, with strategic outcomes relating to increasing the supply of affordable housing, improving housing decency and reducing homelessness. The Leeds Housing Strategy will give equal precedence to the 'Health and Wellbeing' strategic theme, recognising the contribution housing and housing services make towards health outcomes. For example, reducing dependency on residential and day care services, preventing hospital admissions, tackling the link between poor thermal comfort and reduced health outcomes and the impact of homelessness and rough sleeping on health and wellbeing.
- 2.6. The updated strategy will include a strategic vision, themes and goals. The latter will include a series of actions and accompanying success measures. This will form the basis of the strategy action plan, which will be monitored and reviewed through the Leeds Housing Partnership.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1. The Leeds Housing Strategy will be framed around a strategic vision: 'Creating opportunities for people to live independently in quality, affordable housing'. Three strategic themes seem to flow from this vision:
- 3.1.1. Increasing the supply of affordable housing
 - 3.1.2. Improving housing quality
 - 3.1.3. Promoting independent living
- 3.2. The 'Increasing the supply of affordable housing' theme includes the following strategic goals:
- 3.2.1. Help people become and remain home-owners
 - 3.2.2. Increase the supply of rented housing
 - 3.2.3. Make best use of existing housing stock
 - 3.2.4. Improve the mix of available housing options
 - 3.2.5. Increase the supply of accessible housing including 'Lifetime Homes'
- 3.3. The theme around increasing the supply of affordable housing has been affected by the economic downturn. Historically, affordable housing has been generated through wider housing development: Section 106 planning gain and mixed tenure development. The downturn in house building activity will have an impact on affordable housing secured through such routes. The Council is looking to generate affordable housing by encouraging local housing associations to purchase empty new build housing, partly through the receipt of Homes and Communities Agency funding. Such properties would be let on a social or intermediate rental charge and could be offered to key workers as a 'rent now buy later' option. The Council and local housing associations are also liaising with the Homes and Communities Agency

around the potential to increase grant rates, which could make mono-tenure development more economically viable. Greater emphasis is being placed on helping existing homeowners to remain in their homes and the Golden Triangle 'Home Buy Plus' initiative is being reconfigured around a Mortgage Rescue model. The need to develop more family sized housing remains pressing, as does the need to develop more accessible housing, so people can continue to live comfortably, even when their health conditions change. All housing developed through the Affordable Housing Strategic Partnership conforms to the 'Lifetime Homes' standard. The Council's plans to modernise sheltered housing provision are framed around the concept of accessible homes in accessible neighbourhoods.

3.4. The 'Improving housing quality' theme includes the following strategic goals:

- 3.4.1. Bring social housing stock up to the decency standard
- 3.4.2. Identify investment options for council housing
- 3.4.3. Increase the number of private homes meeting the decency standard
- 3.4.4. Improve the long-term sustainability of housing stock
- 3.4.5. Improve the standard of temporary accommodation
- 3.4.6. Contribute to improving and developing deprived neighbourhoods

3.5. The Council and the Leeds ALMOs are committed to bringing all council owned housing up to the decency standard by 2010/11. The Council very much considers attaining the decency standard as an important milestone, rather than an end in itself. The Council and the Leeds ALMOs are exploring options for maintaining and enhancing the level of investment in council housing post-2011. The Council is also exploring options for securing investment to tackle the private sector housing challenge. The government's economic stimulus package may well result in the Council being able to bid for additional funding. The Council has also noted the precedent of Liverpool where the local NHS Trust is investing £9 million in improving private sector housing quality.

3.6. The 'Promoting Independent Living' theme includes the following strategic goals:

- 3.6.1. Enable people to find their own housing solutions through quality information and enhanced housing options
- 3.6.2. Use support, adaptations and technology to promote independent living
- 3.6.3. Maximise opportunities to prevent homelessness
- 3.6.4. Reduce use of temporary accommodation and incidence of rough sleeping
- 3.6.5. Modernise housing provision for vulnerable people
- 3.6.6. Contribute to promoting community cohesion, reducing worklessness and tackling anti-social behaviour

3.7. Maximising opportunities for vulnerable people to live independently and to exercise choice and control over their lives is a key priority for the updated housing strategy. Services such as housing-related support, adaptations and assistive technology, such as Telecare, play an important role in reducing dependency on residential and day care services and preventing hospital admissions. The strategy will seek to highlight the 'invest to save' benefits of housing services on wider health and social care priorities. Housing advice and homeless assessment services are being reconfigured around a Housing Solutions model. The aim is to provide personalised services that maximise prevention opportunities and give people a wider range of housing options, so that they are able to find their own solution to a housing need. The Council is also committed to modernising housing provision for vulnerable groups such as people with learning disabilities and older people, where current accommodation provision is outmoded and does not promote independent living outcomes.

3.8. The updated housing strategy is being developed on a city-wide basis. It is believed that it would be advantageous to subsequently develop complementary local housing strategies, for specific areas of the city, which reflect the key themes of the overall housing strategy.

3.9. The first draft of the strategy will be completed by the end of February, with the strategy being implemented once it has been approved by the Council's Executive Board. The strategy is due to be considered by the Executive Board in July 2009.

4. Implications for Council Policy and Governance

4.1. The updated Housing Strategy will set out the key challenges and actions of the housing authority and partners over the next three years. The updated housing strategy will be presented to the Council's Executive Board in July 2009.

5. Legal and Resource Implications

5.1. The updated housing strategy will set out the investment requirements relating to the housing challenges facing the city. There is no legal obligation on the part of the Council to develop a housing strategy for the city. The updated housing strategy will have regard for all relevant legal duties relating to the authority.

6. Equality Considerations

6.1. The updated housing strategy will be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment, to ensure that it effectively covers housing challenges relating to the six equality strands.

7. Conclusions

7.1. The updated housing strategy will set out the key housing challenges for the city and the actions that will be taken to address these challenges. The Council and partners recognise that housing is a dynamic service area, and the Council and partners will need to be flexible to respond to evolving challenges. The Leeds Housing Partnership will monitor the strategy action plan on an ongoing basis.

8. Recommendation

8.1. To note the contents of the report.

Background Papers

None



Originator:	Andrew Tate Tom Smith
Tel:	271746

**Report of the Executive Project Manager /
Head of Performance & Communications (Environmental Services)**

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

**Subject: Residual Waste Treatment Project:
Update and Communication and Community Engagement Strategy**

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

☐

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

☐

Community Cohesion

☐

Narrowing the Gap

☐

Council
Function

X

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

☐

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

☐

Executive Summary

Members of the Area Committee are requested to note the current status of the Residual Waste Treatment PFI project. Members of the Area Committee are asked to feedback on the proposed strategy for communication and community engagement for the Residual Waste Treatment PFI project.

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report describes the current status of the residual waste project. Its purpose is to update Area Committees about the project and to consult with Area Committees on the proposed communication and community engagement strategy for the Residual Waste Treatment PFI project.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 The Residual Waste Treatment project progressed to procurement in July 2008 following the issue of an OJEU Notice, approved by the Executive Board, in June 2008. In November 2008 a further report to the Executive Board was submitted and the evaluation methodology for the project was approved. The competitive dialogue procedure commenced in November 2008 with the issue of the first detailed bidding stage, ISOS (Invitation to Submit Outline Solutions). Ten bidders were involved in this stage, the bidder numbers having being reduced from the original list of thirteen bidders who responded to the OJEU notice.

3.0 Main issues

3.1 Current status

- 3.1.1 The ISOS bidding stage asked 69 detailed questions to each bidder so that their proposal could be fully defined within the bid response. The questions included the technology they proposed, their proposed site, the level of diversion from landfill they anticipated and a range of environmental and other factors.
- 3.1.2 ISOS bids were received from 9 bidders on 21st January 2009, the 10th bidder having withdrawn from the bidding process. These bids are now in the process of being evaluated by the project team.
- 3.1.3 The council undertook a programme of formal consultation to find out what stakeholders thought were the most important things to take into account when deciding on the Residual Waste Treatment Solution for Leeds. This consultation has directly influenced the criteria by which we will decide on the technology and site for a Residual Waste Treatment facility.
- 3.1.4 The outcome of the evaluation will be reported to the project Board in mid April 2009 and a decision to proceed to the next bid stage with either 3 or 4 bidders will be sought.

3.2 Overview of bids received

- 3.2.1 The bidders have responded well to the invitation with good quality submissions being received from all 9 bidders. The bidders are all substantial businesses well known in the waste sector and a number are international companies.
- 3.2.2 This bid stage will consider the price of the overall contract, however the complexities of the project have resulted in the need to restrict the amount of detailed price information at this stage. Nevertheless, the bidders have supplied sufficient detail to give a good indication of price and to allow the evaluation to reflect price within the overall assessment. A fully worked up price submission will be evaluated at the next stage of the process.
- 3.2.3 A range of sites have been suggested for the location of the final treatment facility, including the council's reference site, the former wholesale markets site on Pontefract Lane. The final location of any facility will be dependent on the adoption of relevant Development Plan Documents and final planning applications. The majority of bidders propose to take advantage of the Council's reference site for a waste transfer station being the site of the existing Council waste transfer station at Evanston Avenue, Kirkstall.
- 3.2.4 The bidders are proposing varying mixes of technologies that are being considered under the approved evaluation criteria. The evaluation process has been tested to ensure that it does not favour any particular technology proposal.

3.3 Future Timetable

3.3.1 The future timetable for the Residual Waste Treatment Project decision is as follows:

Decision/milestone	Date
Complete ISOS bid evaluation – reduce from 9 bidders to 3 or 4 bidders	Mid April 2009
Complete Invitation to Submit Detailed Specifications (ISDS) bid evaluation – reduce from 3 or 4 bidders to 2 bidders	November 2009
Announce preferred bidder	Spring/early Summer 2010
Preferred bidder submits planning application	Autumn 2010
Contract signature	Autumn 2010
Planning permission obtained – commence construction	Mid 2011
Service commencement – plant operational	April 2014

3.4 Communication and Community Engagement Planning

- 3.4.1 There has been extensive public communications and consultation on the Waste Strategy for Leeds over the last two and half years; the most recent exercise being a programme of consultation to find out what stakeholders thought were the most important things to take into account when deciding on the Residual Waste Treatment Solution for Leeds.
- 3.4.2 We now want to build on this work in order to communicate and engage with our stakeholders to support the delivery of the Residual Waste Treatment solution for the city. A communications and community engagement plan has been developed which consists of five distinct elements:

1. Consultation with officers and Elected Members to agree the delivery plan (February to April 2009);

Our communication and community engagement plan needs to be consulted on with Elected Members for it to be delivered effectively and meet its aims. This report is therefore being presented to Area Committees during the March/April cycle for feedback.

In addition to the report, there will also be attendance from Waste Management Officers at the Inner East, Outer East, Inner South and Inner North-west committees, reflecting the likelihood of greater impact of the Residual Waste Treatment Project in these areas.

2. Communications and education about the Residual Waste Treatment Project (April to November 2009);

If we are to successfully deliver project we need to further educate the public about the process we have gone through and the reasons for it, so that they can make informed

decisions about how to react when a preferred bidder is chosen. At this stage therefore we will seek to communicate with, and educate stakeholders about:

- the environmental and financial need to reduce landfill and why we need a Residual Waste Treatment Facility to do so;
- the process by which we have come to a shortlist of four bidders;
- the likely technologies and sites, and what this means for stakeholders;
- the future process and how and about what stakeholders can be involved.

The nature of the project means that there will be citywide interest, but that there will also be localised, more intensive, interest in areas near to the proposed sites for the residual waste treatment facility and transfer station. This means that we need to cover the Leeds area, but target engagement to those areas most affected.

The approach will therefore involve communication covering all wards, but more focussed and intensive communications activities in the wards most affected. We need to ensure that all information will be accessible to all stakeholders, relevant, accurate and timely.

Residents and businesses in the proximity of any proposed sites for the Residual Waste Treatment Solution will be invited to register for the chance to attend a briefing session in their local area, to receive information updates (electronically or by post), or to 'opt-out' of receiving any information. We will use a wide variety of methods to get this invitation to the communities, including the use of local community spaces, newsletters and leaflets to households and 'local' access points.

We are also aware of the need to engage with community advocates in these areas. We propose to contact the chairs of residents committees and other community organisations directly, to invite them to be involved in a programme of communications and education events. This could also include visits to Residual Waste Treatment facilities in other areas of the country.

We will also communicate with the wider Leeds public, through the local press and our website, again inviting them to register to receive further information and updates about the process.

3. *Community engagement on the proposals from the final two bidders (November 2009 to Spring/Summer 2010);*

Once the number of bidders is reduced to two we will begin a further round of communications, but also seek to engage stakeholders local to the identified sites in a dialogue about the proposed solutions, this is expected to directly involve the remaining bidders. At this stage we need to provide genuine opportunities for key stakeholders to contribute, and to have their voices heard, to enable proper account to be taken of their views.

The intention of this stage is to further communicate with stakeholders about the final two proposed solutions and enable stakeholders to feed back on issues with particular bids and sites, to allow scope to address any issues prior to the formal planning process. We would also seek to use this stage to identify any opportunities for stakeholder benefits arising from the Residual Waste Treatment Facility, such as amenity value.

We propose taking a similar approach to Stage 2 above, inviting residents to be involved in facilitated sessions in the local areas most affected by proposals. Because of the nature of the project, and the timescales involved this is, in practice, the pre-planning consultation process for the Residual Waste Treatment Facility and will be managed as such, engaging with all statutory stakeholders.

**4. *Community engagement on Evanston Avenue proposals
(date to be determined.)***

Given the likelihood of the Evanston Avenue site being an integral part of the council's waste infrastructure, there is a need to progress community engagement in this area differently to the areas near to possible residual waste treatment sites and to Leeds as a whole.

We will deliver a pre-planning process to enable local stakeholders, including Elected Members, local business and residents to feedback on issues around our proposals for the site in order to address any concerns prior to a formal planning application being submitted for this site.

**5. *Statutory consultation process for planning permission for a Residual Waste Treatment Facility
(Spring/Summer 2010 onwards.)***

At this stage the council will undertake a formal consultation, in line with the statutory planning process, on the council's preferred technology and site.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 Members of the Area Committee are requested to note the current status of the Residual Waste PFI project and the bids recently received.
- 4.2 Members of the Area Committee are requested to feedback on the proposals for communication and community engagement for the Residual Waste Treatment Project.

Background Papers

- Waste Solution for Leeds – Residual Waste Treatment PFI Project – Evaluation Methodology and Update, Executive Board (November 2008)

Originator: Alan Jones

Tel: 3957151

Report of the Fuelsavers Team - Health and Environmental Action Service

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Fuel Poverty Reduction Target Support

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley

Bramley & Stanningley

☐

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

☐

Community Cohesion

☐

Narrowing the Gap

☒

Council
Function

x

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

☐

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

☐

Executive Summary

Fuel poverty in 2008 is calculated at **24% in the City**, increasing from 19% in the last reporting period. Vulnerable fuel poverty, (those households containing pensioners, long term ill, disabled or children) has increased from 15% to **20%** representing one in four and one in five households respectively.

In turn, given the new suite of National Performance Indicators placed on the Authority and with particular reference to NI 187 Fuel Poverty Reduction, there is a growing need to ensure area based targets are established to support the objectives of reducing fuel poverty to meet the overall city objectives.

Without local support and the integration of targets into local plans, the Local Authority's endeavor to support national government to eradicate fuel poverty and in meeting Key Performance Indicator NI 187 for fuel poverty reduction will be difficult. This report identifies the level of this form of poverty in the City, the current work going on to address the problem, the local levels of this form of poverty and crucially the need for partner support, at a local level, to assist in eradicating fuel poverty by 2016.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

- 1.1 To seek support for actions and targets to be established at a local level to eradicate Fuel Poverty in the City in line with Leeds Affordable Warmth Strategy 2007 to 2016.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) came into force on 1 April 1996 and runs for a term of 15 years up to 31st March 2011. The Leeds Energy Efficiency Strategy, entitled 'Warm Homes Cool Planet' sets out in 93 action points how the Local Authority seeks to stimulate a 30% energy efficiency improvement across Leeds public and private sector housing stock over the HECA period. This strategy was reviewed and updated in September 2007.
- 2.2 It is a requirement of the Act that Local Authorities report annually as part of and parallel to their housing investment submission on the progress made in managing and implementing measures identified in their energy efficiency plan submitted under Section 2 of HECA (1995) .This report will highlight extracts of some of the main outputs of the Twelfth Reporting Year 2007/08 HECA Report.
- 2.3 Further to the HECA facilitation and reporting requirements placed on the Authority, the Warm Homes Act 2000 and revision 2001 has placed extra responsibility on Local Authorities to establish fuel poverty plans. These plans should establish how many households are 'fuel poor' and in turn identify what action or assistance that Local Authority is undertaking to assist and reduce the number of fuel poor households in its area. Fuel poverty is defined as those households spending more than 10% of net income on total household energy use.
- 2.4 Central Government seeks that all households **are taken out of fuel poverty by 2016 and all** vulnerable households, those containing the elderly, disabled, long term sick or households with children by **2010**.
- 2.5 Leeds City Council refreshed its Fuel Poverty Strategy in 2007 and issued the Leeds Affordable Warmth Strategy 2007 to 2016, in its place. Leeds City Council subsequently gave the responsibility to the Fuelsavers Board to oversee taking forward the actions identified within that Strategy up to 2016 .The Fuelsavers Board is made up of a cross sectoral partnership of organisations and is Chaired by Lead Member for Energy, Councilor Barry Anderson.
- 2.6 The Fuelsavers Board, in the summer of 2008 also accepted responsibility to over-see and facilitate actions that support carbon dioxide emission reductions in the Leeds housing stock, as identified by the City's Climate Change Strategy, once released. Housing currently represents 30% of the City's overall environmental emissions burden.

- 2.7** A suite of National Indicators (NIs) have been placed upon Local Authorities in 2008, covering a three year period, and giving responsibility to the Local Authority in taking action on range of issues. NI187, a key indicator, covers decreasing the number of households who are in receipt of state benefits, and who live in a SAP score dwelling of under 35. In turn, increasing the number of occupants receiving state benefits living in SAP score dwellings of 65 or better .The SAP or Standard Assessment Procedure is an energy score of dwellings from a low of 0 to a high of 100.The average public sector dwelling having a SAP average of 67 and the 55.8 respectively for private sector homes in Leeds.
- 2.8** NI187 targets set for Leeds are 500 homes under SAP 35 to be taken above this threshold and 500 dwellings from SAP 36 to 65 to be taken to above 65 annually.
- 2.9** National Indicator 186 is a carbon saving per capita target and has not currently been set or agreed by the Local Authority for the City.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1** The 12th HECA Report covering the period 2007/08 continues to highlight energy efficiency improvement progress across the City, with an overall improvement of 4.07% and new overall City running total standing at 24.68% against a 2011, 30% target. Whilst this is excellent progress, a large number of households in the City are in and are being brought into fuel poverty by low income, rising fuel prices and limited housing improvement grant take-up.
- 3.2** Energy efficiency improvement in the owner occupied housing stock has shown a slowing to 3.71% from 3.98%, mainly due to the predicted tailing off of fuel company grants due to the replacement of the Energy Efficiency Commitment (EEC) obligation with the Carbon Emission Reduction Target (CERT). Fuel poverty in the owner occupied sector was measured at 17% in 2008.
- 3.3** The private rented housing sector stock performance at 1.60% shows a slight improvement against the 1.24% achieved in the previous reporting period. This is however, still the lowest rate of progress across all tenures and suggests this sector requires continuing support, development and action. It is anticipated the revised Private Sector Housing Strategy; which contain a large proportion of energy efficiency interventions will help to accelerate growth in this sector. Fuel poverty in this sector is measured at 28% of all households.
- 3.4** Housing Association performance at 2.05% shows a drop from the 3.39% in the last reporting period. Self reporting by Registered Social Landlord (RSL) tenants also shows energy efficiency improvements in the older stock is low. The dialogue with RSLs will continue to ensure Housing Association managers this tenure's sector managers are aware of the need to support energy efficiency improvements of their existing, older solid-walled dwellings, with fuel poverty showing at 29% of this tenure grouping.
- 3.5** Warm Front 2 (WF2) grant take-up for insulation and heating improvements to those receiving state benefits living in the private sector, shows that 4,634 households received improvement measures . Environment and Neighborhoods Directorate have placed much emphasis in seeking to contact all potential eligible WF2 clients in an

attempt to encourage the take up of grant support. Over 12,000 Leeds households are still eligible for this grant.

- 3.6** Energy efficiency improvements have brought about a carbon dioxide (CO₂) reduction in the whole housing stock in 2007/08 of 72,437 tonnes. The average carbon dioxide emissions from a Leeds home are now 6.3 tonnes. The highest level of carbon dioxide emissions were noted in the private rented sector at 7.4 tonnes with the lowest outputs from RSL dwellings at an average of 5.8 tonnes due to the larger number of newer dwellings in this tenure sector in their top quartiles by build age.
- 3.7** The level of calculated fuel poverty in the private sector across the City in **2008** is **24%**, representing an increase against the 19% reported in the previous HECA Report in 2007, but not unexpected given the continued increases in gas and electricity prices, which have outpaced annual rises in household income. Moreover, such an impact is also reflected in the calculated level of fuel poverty in vulnerable households which has increased from 15% to **20%**. Furthermore, 19% of all households reported that their own, or family's health is affected by cold conditions in the home. Record high energy prices may therefore also bring additional challenges as households are faced with making choices between heating and health. Appendices 1 of this report shows by Area Management wedge and Area Committee areas the scale of fuel poverty in the City. Appendices 2 the scale of fuel poverty in the community by ethnicity. Appendices 3 the original base position data by ward and ranking of fuel poverty in the City.
- 3.8** The revised new Leeds Affordable Warmth Strategy was formally launched on 23rd October 2007, and work has continued to encourage organisations to sign up to the Code of Practice (CoP) which seeks to stimulate partnership working to eradicate fuel poverty. Currently 28 organisations support the COP in the City, but progress is slow in stimulating organisations to accept, signpost, advise or support vulnerable households under the terms of the COP to assistance via Fuelsavers. Partner support to date has led to numerous gains both through COP and non COP partners, but given the scale of the fuel poverty problem in the City it is crucial that partners, working locally, consider supporting the overall objectives, wherever practicable to do so. In turn that this support is formalised in local area plans in five key areas, (1) Pieces (leaflets or guides by volume) or the type of advice and information available publicly, (2) referrals to support both financial measures and staff trained (3) assistance to energy improvement measures either in house or to other bodies and (4) financial resource allocated for facilitation? or measures. (5) Intervention actions either legal or advisory.
- 3.9** The Local Authority's overarching objectives to tackle fuel poverty in support of the requested actions under 3.9 in the City are:
- To find and assist fuel poor householders in Leeds and support those found to access current and available grant or landlord assistance. Either through partnership working, agencies, direct communication, mail drops, leaflets, door-to-door or via an in –the-home worker support.
 - To work with partners to ensure targets are supported and embedded into plans in support of the overall city-wide objectives.
 - To facilitate financial resources being brought into the City or released to meet the need overtime.
 - To continue to provide a coordinating and support mechanism through the HEAS Fuelsavers Team

Schemes Fuelsavers are working with to date or up and coming are:

Health Through Warmth – A private sector housing grant for those with a medical condition. Supporting heating and insulation improvements.

Warm Front, a private sector benefits based heating and insulation grant.

Community Warmth, a ward based door-to-door initiative to bring households to improved insulation measures (Community Warmth is now no longer operational in Leeds). A new 5+5 ward initiative will be commissioned with a view to operating in 2009/10 .Cost per door hit £4 or less.

Heat seekers – A drive by thermal capture system to identify poorly insulated homes (to commence in one ward only). Cost £2,000 per Ward.

Aerial thermal over-flight. To capture the thermal image of the insulation of domestic dwellings in the City. On hold due to funding limitations. Current cost approximately 10 pence per household or £3000 per Area wedge.

Carbon Emission Reduction Target CERT Grant to ALMOs to support insulation improvements. This will be extended to private homes in 2009/10.

Renewable Loans. Not too dissimilar to the Kirklees Scheme of providing loans to purchase renewable technology such as air and ground source heat pump heating systems. On hold due to resource issues.

Free cavity wall insulation to 60 to 69 year old households .On hold due to resource issues (17,264 households).

Events / Training – To give advice to householders and to support workers to sign post householders to advice and support.

Telephone support – On 0113 3957159 or web at <http://www.leeds.gov.uk>

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

4.1 Government carried out a Consultation of HECA, the outcome of which appears to favour a repeal of the Act, though a final decision is due to be taken in 2009. In turn this may effect, if repealed, more detailed reporting of what is occurring in energy efficiency improvement and fuel poverty monitoring in future across the City.

4.2 The Fuelsavers Board will continue to facilitate action to take forward the City's HECA, Affordable Warmth Strategy objectives and new National Indicator 187 (NI187) fuel poverty reduction target. Supporting also where appropriate the new National Indicator NI186 (the reduction in carbon emissions per capita).

4.3 The Local Authority continues to raise awareness to Government for access to the data which is currently being captured through the new Energy Performance Certificate

legislation which came into force in the private for sale sector in stages from August 2007, and more recently from 1st October 2008 for the private rented sector. This is to enable carefully focused targeting of advice and support to properties with a low SAP energy rating, or where appropriate, to target enforcement action in the private rented sector under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) 'Excess Cold' Category One Hazard, which by proxy would be houses at EPC 'F' or 'G' ratings or under SAP 35.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

5.1 There are no Legal Implications other than a potential failure to meet NI 187 over-time. Resource implications are off-set through energy company grant draw-in

6.0 Conclusions

Without local support and the integration of targets into local plans, the Local Authority's endeavor to support national government to eradicate fuel poverty and in meeting Key Performance Indicator NI 187 will be difficult. This report identifies the level of this form of poverty in the City, the current work going on to address the problem, the local levels of this form of poverty and the need for partner support. See also Appendices 4 from the Energy Saving Trust Fuel Poverty Advisory Group Chair requesting support for and integration of fuel poverty reduction targets into local plans.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.01** That the Committee note the findings of this report
- 7.02** That consideration is given to agreeing, setting and integrating local targets into plans when appropriate to do so.
- 7.03** That financial resource allocation is considered to support actions that lead to more people coming to grant support, such as aerial or ground based thermal imaging and or door-to-door contact mechanisms. With a recommendation to support a Well Being Fund submission for the sum of £3000 towards a City wide aerial thermal survey.

Background Papers

- Leeds Affordable Warmth Strategy, 2007 - 2016
- Leeds Energy Efficiency Strategy, 'Warm Homes Cool Planet'
- Twelfth Reporting Year 2007/08 HECA Report
- Private Sector Housing Strategy

Appendices 1

Fuel Poverty (Calculated) by Area Management Team (AMT) Wedges and Area Committee Areas in 2008.

AMT	Total	Vulnerable	Non Vulnerable	AMT Sub-Sector	Total	Vulnerable	Non Vulnerable
East Northeast	26%	22%	4%	Inner East	45%	36%	9%
				Inner North East	21%	19%	3%
				Outer North East	15%	14%	1%
South East	22%	19%	3%	Outer East	21%	18%	2%
				Inner South	26%	22%	5%
				Outer South	21%	19%	2%
West Northwest	24%	18%	6%	Inner North West	29%	18%	11%
				Outer North West	19%	17%	2%
				Inner West	27%	21%	5%
				Outer West	24%	20%	4%
City wide	24%	20%	4%				

Calculated Fuel Poverty in “Vulnerable” Groups

Household Category	% Fuel Poor
Aged 16 or under	14%
Aged 60 or over	30%
Disabled	32%
Recovering from a long term illness	32%
In receipt of benefits	41%

Perceptual question: Do you feel that your health or that of your family's is affected by cold conditions in your home?

Tenure	2008 Yes
Housing Association	29 %
Privately Rented	28 %
Owner Occupier	17 %
All	19 %

Appendices 2

Calculated Fuel Poverty v Ethnicity 2008

Ethnic Group	Calculated Fuel Poverty			% Population from 2001 Census
	Total	Vulnerable	Non Vulnerable	
Caribbean	42 %	32 %	10 %	0.9 %
African	25 %	17 %	8 %	0.3 %
Other Black	60 %	60 %	0 %	0.2 %
Total Black	39 %	30 %	9 %	1.4 %
Indian	20 %	18 %	2 %	1.7 %
Kashmiri	75 %	75 %	-	-
Pakistani	47 %	44 %	4 %	2.1 %
Other Asian	21 %	17 %	3 %	0.7 %
Total Asian	30 %	27 %	3 %	4.5 %
White and Black Caribbean	38 %	31 %	6 %	-
White and Black African	38 %	-	38 %	-
White and Asian	27 %	20 %	7 %	-
Other White Mixed	8 %	8 %	-	-
Total White Mixed	29 %	21 %	9 %	1.4 %
Chinese	44 %	28 %	16 %	0.5 %
Gypsy/Traveler	33 %	33 %	-	-
Other	23 %	23 %	-	0.4 %
Other Ethnic	33 %	26 %	7 %	0.8 %
British	20 %	17 %	3 %	89.2 %
Irish	36 %	33 %	3 %	1.2 %
Other White	16 %	11 %	4 %	1.5 %
Total White	20 %	17 %	3 %	91.8 %

Note: Due to the limited number of data returns with these Groups, the data should be treated with caution when assessing fuel poverty in the BME Community.

Appendices 3

Perceptual Fuel Poverty by Ward .Base year 2006

Difficulty Affording to Heat Your Home - 2006				
Ward	Rank	% - Yes (Vulnerable)	% - Yes (Non Vulnerable)	% - Yes (Total)
Gipton and Harehills	33	51%	14%	65%
Hyde Park and Woodhouse	32	21%	37%	59%
Killingbeck and Seacroft	31	45%	8%	53%
Middleton Park	30	38%	14%	52%
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill	29	38%	12%	50%
Beeston and Holbeck	28	35%	14%	49%
City and Hunslet	27	32%	13%	45%
Armley	26	27%	17%	44%
Pudsey	25	31%	11%	42%
Ardsley and Robin Hood	24	34%	7%	41%
Morley South	23	34%	7%	41%
Bramley and Stanningley	22	31%	9%	41%
Chapel Allerton	21	27%	13%	40%
Kippax and Methley	20	30%	9%	39%
Farnley and Wortley	19	29%	8%	37%
Morley North	18	30%	7%	37%
Rothwell	17	26%	11%	36%
Otley and Yeadon	16	28%	8%	36%
Temple Newsam	15	29%	7%	36%
Cross Gates and Whinmoor	14	28%	7%	35%
Headingley	13	17%	18%	34%
Calverley and Farsley	12	27%	8%	34%
Kirkstall	11	23%	11%	34%
Moortown	10	25%	7%	32%
Guiseley and Rawdon	9	27%	6%	32%
Garforth and Swillington	8	26%	6%	32%
Weetwood	7	22%	9%	31%
Alwoodley	6	24%	6%	30%
Horsforth	5	22%	7%	28%
Roundhay	4	20%	6%	26%
Harewood	3	19%	4%	23%
Wetherby	2	19%	4%	23%
Adel and Wharfedale	1	20%	2%	22%

Appendices 4

Dear Chief Executive,

2007

I am writing **about your Local Area Agreement to flag up how vital this element of the new performance framework will be for tackling fuel poverty in your area.**

I am Chair of the Government's Fuel Poverty Advisory Group, an external group which advises the Government on the practical measures needed to meet its target of eradicating fuel poverty. Households are described as fuel poor if they have to spend more than 10% of their income to maintain an adequately warm home. **Addressing climate change and fuel poverty through improving the energy efficiency of homes are key roles for Local Authorities, now being embedded in the new framework for assessing Council performance.**

Our message is an unusual and a helpful one! There is money available in the fuel poverty programmes for the improvement of the energy efficiency of homes, especially for insulation and the installation of central heating for low income households. Specifically, over £700m pa of resources is likely to be available 2008-11 within the Government's Warm Front grant scheme and the energy companies' CERT energy grant schemes – these grant providers need local assistance to locate eligible householders.

Given the pressures on funding such resources could be useful for you in the context of the Local Area Agreements.

It will be extremely helpful therefore if fuel poverty (and climate change), NIs 187 (and NI 186), are included in your LAA. A reduction in fuel poverty is particularly important for elderly people, and NIs 138 and 139 (satisfaction and support for people over 65) are also important here.

Further details on the relevant new indicators and on the importance for many Government and local objectives of reducing fuel poverty are attached, and I would be grateful if you could pass this note to the relevant people in your Authority as appropriate **for consideration during the preparation of the Area Plans/Agreements.**

Thank you for your help.

Chair, Fuel Poverty Advisory Group



Originator: Nigel Conder

Tel: 3950978

Report of the West North West Leeds Area Manager

Report to Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Town Centre Manager Update

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley

☒ Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

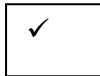
Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity ☐

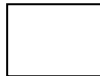
Community Cohesion ☐

Narrowing the Gap ☐

Council
Function



Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In



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



Executive Summary

This report provides Members with an update on the Town Centre Manager's progress, priorities and work programme and proposals for revitalising Armley town.

It asks Members to note and comment on the content of the report.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

This report is to update Members on progress to date, next steps and proposals for revitalising Armley town.

2.0 Background Information

A review of all local issues relating to and impacting on local businesses has been undertaken. This has included meeting with local partners and organisations operating in the area and businesses in order to understand the main issues. This has informed the development of an action plan to focus in on these key issues. This needs to be flexible to be able to take account of the changing environment associated with the current economic downturn.

3.0 Issues for consideration

As part of the review a number of factors have arisen that need further consideration:

1. Would specialisation of business draw more visitors?
2. Increasing footfall and marketing.
3. Number of empty units.
4. Number of charity shops, betting establishments and takeaways.
5. Developing an identity for the town.
6. A place to visit during the evening, with good eating and drinking establishments.
7. Building on and enhancing regular held events held in Armley.
8. Development and role of the Business Forum and Business Link.
9. Security, crime and the feel of Armley.
10. Shop Local campaign.
11. Armley clean up.
12. Fun Day and the Summer Bands.

3.1 Would specialisation of business draw more visitors to Armley?

Given the examples of other local towns that have been successful in turning their fortunes around, it is clear that they all have things in common.

- a. They have specialised in the food and drink arena rather than takeaway establishments.
- b. They have attracted investment from entrepreneurs who have taken advantage of what they see as an up and coming area.

3.2 Increasing footfall and marketing

In order to build an awareness of Armley and what it has to offer it is clear that a sustained campaign of marketing would be needed.

3.3 Number of empty units:

There are currently seven empty units, which will need to be looked at to make sure these are Let.

3.4 Number of charity shops, betting establishments and takeaways.

There are three charity shops, four betting establishments and fourteen fast food / sandwich shops.

3.5 Developing an identity for the town.

Further work and consultation is required with stakeholders such as residents, businesses, Members, partners and visitors to consider what they would like the identity of Armley town to be. Armley's identity could include more eating and drinking establishments, and/ or specialised shops, and be a place where there are regular events hosted on the greenspaces and at the Leisure Centre.

3.6 A place to visit during the evening, with good eating and drinking establishments.

There is one restaurant and three Public Houses, of which two offer outdoor facilities.

3.7 Building on and enhancing regular events held in Armley.

There is now the opportunity to enhance and further develop the events that are currently held in and around the town, and harness new opportunities for Armley town.

3.8 Business Forum

A Business Forum has now been established and has met on two occasions. The meetings are monthly. The forum is intended to bring together local businesses to discuss issues that they feel need addressing, it is also meant as a networking event. Mike Massen of Gartons Solicitors has agreed to Chair the meetings, the role of the Town Centre Manager will be to offer advice and provide updates on progress relating to local issues and programmes. The Townscape Heritage Initiative will be launched at the next Business Forum in March.

4.0 Recent Achievements

4.1 Shop Local campaign

The 'Shop Local' campaign is one initiative that is currently in development to help make local people aware of the need for them to support local businesses. The scheme will see the businesses and Armley take up a 'Shop Local' logo which will be used to brand all merchandise and promotional material. There will be an official launch of the campaign and logo in the press and we will be holding regular 'Shop Local' initiatives over the coming year. As part of the official launch we will be printing 'Shop Local' t-shirts for the local traders to wear. Other promotional material will include badges, fridge magnets, eco bags and car stickers all with the 'Shop Local' logo on them. This promotional material will be handed out over the launch weekend to members of the public. The campaign is all about brand awareness and creating this awareness so that when people not just in Armley see it they will automatically associate it with Armley.

4.2 Armley Clean Up

These are to be held bi-monthly so that there is no clash with Operation Champion operations to maximise resources. The idea behind this initiative is to create a sense of civic pride leading up to the Town and District Centre scheme going on site and the launch of the Townscape Heritage Initiative.

4.3 There has been one 'Clean Up Day' to date on the 12th February; those involved with the 'Clean Up Day' were Neighbourhood Wardens who on the day were supervising Community Pay Back individuals who were cleaning off graffiti. They were also advising people on subjects such as littering. Environmental Action Team officers were in attendance visiting businesses and advising on issues around their responsibilities regarding waste and other issues. The Fire Service were there to look at anything they saw as a potential hazard.

- 4.4 The day was seen as a great success with businesses very pleased with what was being done and members of the public happy to see a visible presence and action being taken. The next clean up day will be in April where there will be a focus on enforcement.

5.0 Next Steps

- 5.2 Business priorities for the next twelve months include:

- Development of the Business Forum, run by the businesses.
- Improved communications/ relationships between the Council and businesses.
- Helping to develop and enhance current events held in Armley and to look at new opportunities.
- Marketing and advertising initiatives
- Developing the 'Shop Local' campaign to encourage local residents to buy from local town stores.
- Filling empty shop units.
- Dealing with any issues such as parking, crime and other business related issues.
- Development of an Armley town identity.
- Increasing footfall.

- 5.3 Event Opportunities for Armley town

- 5.4 Armley Fun Day and Summer Bands - Businesses have been informed about these forthcoming events, and have been asked to see if they can offer their support.

- 5.6 The event on Sunday 21st June on Armley Moor will have the Knottingley Silver Band performing, fairground rides for small children, a healthy eating van selling jacket potatoes and healthy drinks, fruit juices etc. and a dog show.

- 5.7 There are a number of further possibilities including:

- A market day or days on Armley Moor.
- A Christmas ice rink in the town, a Christmas tree and more festive lights.
- A summer family teddy bears picnic in the park.

6.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 6.1 An amount of £5,000 has been allocated from the Inner West Well-Being funds for marketing and events. Further resources will be sought from partners and businesses; however future actions must take into account resources available.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The action plan will help to focus and provide a strategic steer for the Town Centre Manager in driving forward improvements to Armley that will form part of a number of schemes and work programme's aimed at revitalising Armley town. Feedback and comments from the Area Committee on the factors for consideration detailed in this report will therefore help to inform the strategic direction.

8.0 Recommendations

8.1 Members are asked to note and comment upon this report.

Background Papers

None

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Originator: Steve Crocker

Tel: 395 0966

Report of the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods

To: Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Area Managers Report

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley

Bramley & Stanningley

☒

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity ☐

Community Cohesion ☐

Narrowing the Gap ☒

Council
Function ☐

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In ☒

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

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform members of progress on a number of projects in Inner West as determined by the Area Delivery Plan 2008-11, which is in turn governed by the Area Committees functions and roles as agreed by Executive Board in July 2008.

1.0 Purpose of This Report

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the progress against Area Committee functions and roles as agreed by Executive Board in July 2008.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The Area Management Review agreed by Executive Board in November 2007 proposed to further develop the responsibilities of the Area Committees during 2008/9. To this end, Area Committee functions and enhanced roles were agreed in July 2008.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Environment

3.1.2 Field of Dreams

3.1.3 In April 2007 St Bartholomew's Primary School, Armley, applied to the People's Millions, Big Lottery, for a grant to create an informal community garden on designated public space adjacent to St. Bartholomew's Primary School. The application was successful and they were awarded £79,930.

3.1.4 Groundwork Leeds are working on the scheme designs, and Parks and Countryside are to undertake the works and deliver the project. It is envisaged that the scheme will be completed by June 2009.

3.2 Thriving Communities

3.2.1 Worklessness Pilot

3.2.2 The aim of the pilot is to reduce worklessness amongst a number of targeted neighbourhoods across the city, which are Halton Moor, Osmondthorpe, Gipton and New Wortley. The pilot will offer intensive wrap around support to identified families/ individuals to encourage them to address the barriers they face in moving into and staying in work. The pilot is a new person-centred approach to address the needs of individuals and to work in partnership with a broad spectrum of statutory and voluntary sector service providers.

3.2.3 The proposed approach aims to coordinate activity in the neighbourhoods and is intended to demonstrate that there are efficiencies to be achieved by effectively joining up services and responding to the individual needs of people. The pilot is a direct response to the recommendations made in the Shreeveport Report, the individuals need to be the focus of the journey and services need to offer individual tailored advice to meet the requirements of the customer. The pilot will establish a network of Family Mentors to work across the target neighbourhoods to utilise a wide range of sources of support personalised to the needs of the individuals. The support will cover a wide range of elements dependent on individual needs; from signposting to partner organisations to personal development plans and wrap round support.

3.2.4 Integrated Money Advice Pilot

3.2.5 Work is underway to roll out an integrated money advice pilot to be run in two areas in Leeds involving a coordination of services from multiple partners. The areas chosen for the first pilots are South Seacroft followed by Armley.

3.2.6 Partners would include: LCC Welfare Benefits and Rights, Debt Advice Agencies, Housing ALMO's, Social Care, NHS PCT, LCC Corporate Debt Team, Leeds City Credit Union, Customer Services One Stop Centres and Contact Centre, Energy Advice. A report on financial inclusion, the credit crunch and debt, money advice services in Leeds is also a separate item on this agenda.

3.2.7 Armley Town Street Clear Up

3.2.8 The agencies involved with the clean up day on the 12th February included Neighbourhood Wardens, who on the day were supervising Community Pay Back individuals to clean areas of graffiti. They also advised people on subjects such as littering. Environment Action Team officers were in attendance visiting businesses and advising on issues around their responsibilities regarding waste and other issues. The Fire Service were also there to look at any potential hazards.

3.2.9 West Leeds Gateway Update

3.2.10 The West Leeds Gateway is one of the city's key regeneration initiatives aimed at narrowing the gap between the most disadvantaged people and communities in West Leeds and the rest of the city. The council's case for focusing on West Leeds lies not only in the area's high levels of deprivation but also in the realistic opportunities for sustainable intervention by the council and other agencies which will ensure that West Leeds is well positioned to take advantage of anticipated future economic growth in Leeds and across West Yorkshire.

3.2.11 A Strategic Delivery & Investment Plan (SDIP) which will form part of the AAP has been drafted for consideration at the WLG Programme Board on 17 March 2009. The plan sets out the regeneration key priorities and projects over the next 5 years and includes New Wortley, the Gateway sites, Armley Town Centre and Armley Mills.

3.2.12 A new West Leeds Gateway Stakeholders' Advisory Group has been set up, which seeks to establish a more strategic and focused remit capable of aligning the social and economic priorities for West Leeds, in particular, worklessness, skills development and neighbourhood management with the physical work programme.

3.2.13 The first meeting was held on the 3rd February. Whilst attendance was good given the weather conditions, it was agreed that a further meeting in April would be held to revisit the two workshops on the 1 – 5 yr Strategic Delivery & Investment Plan (SDIP) and West Leeds Gateway governance.

3.2.14 Neighbourhood Wardens

3.2.15 There are 5 Neighbourhood Wardens working in Inner West funded through Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, Safer Stronger Communities Funding, Area Committee and West North West Homes Leeds funding. The wardens are based on the Wyther estate, Broadlea, Fairfield, and New Wortley area.

3.2.16 An application has been submitted to this Area Committee to continue the joint funding of two neighbourhood wardens posts in New Wortley for a further 12 months and to joint fund one post to cover the Wyther and Fairfield area with West North West Homes Leeds.

3.2.17 Recently, the Wardens, have been involved in:

- Clearing and cutting back the Ginnels with Probation Service in the Fairfield's
- Support to a Charity Auction at New Wortley Community Centre
- Support to Wyther Park House Jumble Sale
- An environmental audit in the Little Scotland area

- A leaflet drop in the Bardens and the Little Scotland area
- Support with the development of an action plan for Little Scotland bin yards and an environmental audit of the bin yards to support project work
- A leaflet drop in the Ganners regarding a clean-up
- Support of the Operation Champions in the Avaries area, through an environmental audit, risk assessment work for Probation, attendance at the planning meeting, graffiti removal, a questionnaire at the school, a photo shoot and community engagement work
- A clean-up in the Ganners area
- A clean-up with Probation in the Fairfields area
- A leaflet drop with Probation in the Clydes, Holdforths and Bruces areas
- An environmental audit to support a clean-up in the Bruces, Holdforths and Clydes areas
- A leaflet drop with Probation in Armley
- A leaflet drop in the Coverdale estate
- Support to an Environmental Action Day in the Broadleas
- Support to an evening Tenancy Sweep in the New Wortley area
- Support to a clean-up day in the Avaries
- A clean-up in Ley Lane and the surrounding streets in Armley

3.2.18 PFI Round 6

3.2.19 An Expression of Interest (EoI) has been submitted by the Council to central Government following the announcement of a Round 6 Private Finance Initiative (PFI). The EoI proposes the development of up to 1,100 new Extra Care schemes and Lifetime Homes across the city, complementing existing regeneration schemes such as EASEL, South Leeds Regeneration Area and Holt Park District Centre Regeneration.

3.2.20 The EoI is presently being evaluated by the Homes and Communities Agency (work undertaken in the past by CLG). The Council is expected to hear in April whether it has been successful in progressing to the next stage of bidding for PFI credits, which will involve the development of an Outline Business Case for submission later in the year.

3.2.21 Work is ongoing between the Regeneration section of the Council, Adult Social Care and the Leeds PCT to ensure that the City can put forward as strong a case as possible for the allocation of credits.

3.3 Stronger Communities

3.3.1 Community Centres

3.3.2 There are five community centres in Inner West, these being Moorside Community Centre, New Wortley Community Centre, Fairfield Community Centre, Strawberry Lane/ St. Batholomew's Centre and Wyther Community House. All of these are leased to independent organisations who manage the centres via their management committees. The exceptions are Strawberry Lane/ St Batholomew's Centre, which is vested with Environments and Neighbourhoods Directorate of Leeds City Council and Wyther Community House, which is managed by West North West Homes Leeds.

The Heights Centre, which although located in Outer West, is part of the Inner West Community Centre Consortia group and it is close to the Armley ward boundary.

- 3.3.3 The community centres are a valuable asset in engaging with residents in deprived communities. They offer many services and facilities, as well as being a local focus from which partner agencies can deliver initiatives, such as worklessness and health. However within the next 12 months most of the community centres (with the exception of Strawberry Lane/ St Batholomew's) will run out of funding. Consequently a Community Centre Consortia group has been convened to address the impending funding issues and deliver a more sustainable management model.
- 3.3.4 To date a proposed business model has been drawn up as to how the community centres can be managed. This involves a lead organisation taking responsibility for managing the centres and co-ordinating the day to day running (recruitment, legal issues such as health and safety, organisation of staff etc.), which will free up community centre staff and volunteers to engage with local people and to develop and deliver programmes of work. A similar model exists in Huddersfield and has proved to be very successful; a visit by the Community Centre Consortia group has taken place.
- 3.3.5 To address the lack of funding a bid is currently being developed for submission to a consortia of funding organisations including the Tudor Trust, HBOS, and the Getty Foundation. A visit to these funding bodies to sound them out on this proposal is planned for the new year. The bid seeks funds to finance key staff, maintenance and capital issues for a three year period. The bid is at Stage 1 and if successful will move to Stage 2 with a final decision being made in early 2009.
- 3.3.6 On the 25th February Area Management and BARCA-Leeds attended a conference at the invitation of BARCA-Leeds who are a key member of the third sector in Leeds. The conference was organised by the British Association of Settlements and Social Action Centres, and enabled networking opportunities with grant givers, such as Tudor Trust and Capacity Builders, which it is hoped will positively assist with the funding bid submissions.
- 3.3.7 New Wortley Community Centre
- 3.3.8 Interim funding for the Community Development Worker/ Centre Manager was secured in October 2008 from the Inner West Area Committee and NHS Leeds (formerly Primary Care Trust). This amounts to £20,000, and will ensure the continuation of services until September 2009. A further bid for interim funding has been submitted to the Area Panel of West North West Homes Leeds for £5,000 to continue to fund the centre manager's post until January 2010. It is hoped that by this time the funding bid to Tudor Trust and others will have been successful. The centre offers a wide variety of services including an After School Club, Community Café, Job shop, Older Persons Luncheon Club, No Smoking Group, Construction Services Certification Scheme Training (CSCS), Stay and Play and Connexions. A drop in youth service is planned for the new year.

3.3.9 Strawberry Lane Centre/ St Bartholomew's Centre

3.3.10 A Cultural Diversity event called 'Spring Together' for the Armley ward took place on Saturday 21st March 2009 at Strawberry Lane/ St Bartholomew's Centre, with Armley Helping Hands being the host organisation. The event involved a wide range of organisations, communities and all age groups from the community living in and around Armley. Armley Helping Hands, Leeds Voice, Area Management and Healthy Living Network Leeds co-ordinated this event.

3.3.11 Moorside Community Centre

3.3.12 Moorside continues to provide services to the local community. Although funding has been provisionally allocated for the installation of a sports pitch the community association wanted to undertake public consultation to clarify local need in the new year. This consultation is now complete and the consensus from the community is that a garden area would be more beneficial. This will engage both old and young residents in learning the benefits of growing their own food. Members are asked to note that this is a change in the original request for funding towards a feasibility study for a sports pitch, and comments are sought on the plans for spend following the consultation. It is hoped that Groundwork Leeds will still be able to undertake the designs for a garden area with the funding provided to them from Inner West Area Committee in the new financial year.

3.3.13 Wyther Community House.

3.3.14 The Community Development worker has been working extensively with partners to develop a range of projects that specifically target the needs of the locality. Regular events are now held with the unpaid service team, which have led to improvements both to the centre but also to the estate as a whole. The girls group, which was funded through WNWHL Area Panel, is now on week four of their baby reality programme with a good number of attendees. The baby reality scheme is aimed at enabling young people to get an experience of how life would be with a baby.

3.3.15 The A2E worker for the estate, who is based in the Wyther Community House, is getting established on the estate and working with a number of people not claiming benefits and not engaged in support services and programmes. Thus far successes have been small but over time it is hoped that more people will take advantage of such initiatives as the Construction Industry Council (CIC) cards and signposting opportunities being offered.

3.3.16 Fairfield Community Centre & Fairfield LAMP

3.3.17 West Leeds has again been successful with the Community and City Pride awards. The Fairfield's Dreamscheme was successful in winning the Small Area Improvement Project of the Year for their works on the grounds of the community centre with the young people of the estate. The Fairfield Community Partnership were instrumental in supporting the Dreamscheme, the model involves the youth people gaining points for hours worked in the community which can be converted into fun activities. The scheme is having a significant impact on both the environment of the Fairfield's and also the children who are involved in the scheme. This is a fantastic success for the

Dreamscheme, which is supported by Area Management and Groundwork Leeds, and delivered by West North West Homes Leeds.

3.3.18 The Fairfield Community Partnership were also instrumental in supporting Shane O'Brian, both for his work with the Dreamscheme and also as a trainee gardener, he won the Under 18s Individual Contribution of the Year.

3.3.19 Spring Together' event

3.3.20 The cultural diversity event, 'Spring Together', took place on Saturday 21st March at Strawberry Lane/ St Bartholomew's Centre. The event involved a wide range of organisations, communities and all age groups from the community living in and around Armley. Armley Helping Hands, Leeds Voice, Area Management and Healthy Living Network Leeds co-ordinated the event. It is estimated that it attracted 600-700 people, who participated in activities such as 5-a-side football, mask making, henna hand painting, tight rope walking, face painting and gardening, and a Russian puppet show, Sikh Drummers and the Fire Service displays, with food from around the world.

3.3.21 Community Engagement

3.3.22 Partnership events – themed discussions

3.3.23 Under the new arrangements for Area Committees to scrutinise partnership working, the first themed event with Inner West Area Committee took place in September around the theme of Children and Young People.

3.3.24 The second themed event took place in October around the theme of Community Safety, with a particular focus on drugs. December's themed event prior to the Area Committee focused on business and economy.

3.3.25 A review of the outcomes and performance to date of the themed meetings took place at the February Area Committee and it was agreed to pilot the health themed meeting through the Bramley and Armley Forums, after the 'Your Community Your Priorities' events. The outcomes of these events will be discussed at a future Area Committee meeting.

3.3.26 'Your Community - Your Priorities'

3.3.27 The 'Your Community Your Priorities' community engagement events follows on from last year's 'What's the Big Idea' community engagement events and will be held on dates when there would normally have been a community forum. The Bramley event, 26th March, was held from 4.00pm-8.00pm at the Fairfield Community Centre and the Armley event, 21st April will be held from 4.30pm-8.00pm at Armley-One-Stop-Centre. The marketplace style layout will include stands reflecting the ADP themes, including Jobs and Skills, Environment, Community Safety, Older People & Health, Children and Young People. Each service will be able to consult visitors on their key priorities to implement the Leeds Strategic Plan and Inner West Area Delivery Plan in 2009/10.

3.3.28 The Area Management Team will prepare a stand which displays information about projects that have been funded by the Area Committee and with which the Area Management Team have been closely involved. It is also proposed to trial a system

of theme prioritisation which has worked successfully elsewhere. There will be questionnaires for residents to complete, 'take action' cards to record resident issues and face-to-face discussions at the themed stands with partners.

- 3.3.29 It is important to attract as many people as possible to the 'Your Community - Your Priorities' community engagement events to ensure a representative range of views are heard from all parts of the community especially, for instance, young people. The events will be promoted well in advance and enhanced with extra attractions, including refreshments, and locally provided musical entertainment by the children from both Bramley Primary School and Castleton Primary School.

3.4 Health and Wellbeing

3.4.1 Fresh 'n' Fruity

- 3.4.2 Fresh 'n' Fruity is a 3 year project set up to enable people in communities in Leeds to make healthier food choices. They do this by increasing access to affordable fruit and veg and information on healthier lifestyles.

- 3.4.3 Part of the project is working to take good quality fresh fruit and veg to areas of Leeds where it is difficult or expensive to obtain. To do this they've set up various market style stalls. They also do some deliveries and aim to support other similar projects where they can.

- 3.4.4 A crucial part of the project is training and awareness through a team of Community Health Educators (CHEs) who after successfully completing training are paid to do various demonstrations and events as well as a variety of sessions based around healthy eating and lifestyles with all sections of the community - passing on tips on healthy eating, cooking, ways to get your '5 a day' and various other health and food related subjects.

- 3.4.5 The project is run by Healthy Living Network Leeds and is one of two Lottery funded projects in Leeds which are part of the 'All together Better' group of projects doing similar work across the region. The project is currently running in two areas of Armley, at the Wyther Community House and Whingate court. This is due to the current available funding and staffing levels at the moment. It is hoped that the new Community Health Educators recruitment round, which is currently open for people to apply at the moment, will allow more work to be developed in the LS12 area.

- 3.4.6 The second scheme the project has developed is 'cook and eat sessions' which are informal learning for small groups around healthy eating. On the whole the scheme is still in development and further funding will mean that more development can take place.

3.5 Enterprise and Economy

- 3.5.1 Armley Town Street Town and District Centre Regeneration Scheme (TDC) and Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI)

- 3.5.2 Work to progress Phase 2 of the Armley Town Centre improvement scheme is now underway. Presently this includes working with local businesses with regard to the

public realm works and working through the tender being Let. This scheme seeks to improve the vitality and viability of Armley town centre for workers, residents and visitors, reverse the physical decline and increase the popularity of the area as a desirable place to work and shop. This work will also contribute to improving the general appearance of Armley town centre and is an element of the West Leeds Gateway Regeneration Programme (WLGRP).

- 3.5.3 Two THI officers have been appointed; Jessica Ashton is in post, with the second officer in post in April. The two posts will be split between Chapeltown and Armley covering the two THI schemes.

3.6 Culture

3.6.1 Summer Bands

3.6.2 The following summer bands have been booked:

- Tenderloin Ragtime Orchestra to perform at Armley Moor on Wednesday 22 July as part of the Armley Fun Day 2pm - 4pm
- Stanley Newmarket Colliery Band to perform at Bramley Park on Sunday 14 June 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- Linthwaite Band to perform at Bramley Park on Sunday 28 June 2.30pm - 4.30pm
- Knottingley Silver Band to perform at Armley Moor on Sunday 21 June 2.30pm - 4.30pm

- 3.6.3 The preparation work for Armley Fun Day is currently underway. As is the organisation of activities that will enhance the Summer Band performances on the 21st June, this may include fairground rides for small children, a healthy eating van selling jacket potatoes and healthy drinks, fruit juices etc and a dog show.

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 The Area Delivery Plan for Inner West is administered through the West North West Leeds Area Management Team.
- 4.2 Well-Being projects develop from Inner West's Leeds Area Delivery Plan and through consultation with Area Committee members. The plan helps to fulfill the Council's Corporate Plan objectives by aiming to create better neighbourhoods and confident communities.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1 In order to meet the Area Committee's functions, funding is supplied via Well Being budgets and the Community Centres Budget.
- 5.2 In order to meet the Area Committee's roles, funding is in the main supplied by other Leeds City Council Departments mainstream budgets, and external partner agencies e.g. the Police and Primary Care Trust, which is in turn reflected by the fact that the Area Committee's role here is to influence, develop and consult. However, wellbeing

funding has resourced some projects here e.g. area based regeneration schemes and conservation area reviews.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The functions and roles of the Area Committee aim to:

- Improve the quality and value for money of Council service delivery
- Improve the quality of democracy and find new ways to facilitate citizen participation in local government through the development of links between Ward Members and their communities.
- To co-ordinate policy and service delivery between the local service providers.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Inner West Area Committee members are invited to:

- note the contents of the report and comment on any aspect of the matters raised
- suggest items for inclusion on future agendas

Background Documents:

Executive Board Report July 2008.

Report of the West North West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Participatory Budgeting on the Broadleas Estate – 12 Month Review

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley

Bramley & Stanningley

☐

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

☐

Community Cohesion

☐

Narrowing the Gap

☐

Council
Function

☐

Delegated Executive
Function available for
Call In

X

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

☐

Executive Summary

This report gives an overview of the progress, successes and challenges that arose from the Participatory Budgeting (PB) pilot on the Broadleas Estate. The objectives for this pilot were:

- To build the capacity and confidence of local residents in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the city to take action to improve their neighbourhood
- To contribute to mixed communities objectives
- To test the PB approach in different contexts
- To build on existing neighbourhood working
- To raise awareness about public service budgeting

The lessons learnt from this pilot can be used to influence future Participatory Budgeting schemes.

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to brief Members on the background, progress, achievements and challenges throughout the process and make recommendations for any future projects of this type.

2.0 Background information

- 2.1 Participatory budgeting is an umbrella term which covers a variety of mechanisms that delegate power or influence over local budgets, investment priorities and economic spending to residents.
- 2.2 Participatory budgeting involves residents directly in making decisions about budget issues, either on a small scale at the service or neighbourhood level or on a more strategic level at a city or national level. In practice, the power delegated to residents in the decision processes varies, from providing decision-makers with information about resident preferences to processes that place parts of the budget under direct resident control. (Ref. 1)
- 2.3 Within Leeds the objectives of the pilot were:
- To build the capacity and confidence of local residents in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the city to take action to improve their neighbourhood
 - To contribute to mixed communities objectives
 - To test the PB approach in different contexts
 - To build on existing neighbourhood working
 - To raise awareness about public service budgeting
- 2.4 It was proposed that the Area Managers for West and South select, in consultation with relevant elected Members, one neighbourhood in each area in which to carry out the PB pilot. The neighbourhood must include super output areas within the 10% most deprived category. Members also suggested that there would be benefit in having two contrasting pilots with one focusing more on capacity building in an area with little existing community infrastructure and another including residents from disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged backgrounds to test the possibility of achieving a 'mixed community' approach to PB. This led to the Broadleas estate being chosen in West Leeds and the village of Drighlington in South Leeds.
- 2.5 Funding for the scheme on the Broadleas came from the Inner West Area Committee (£5,000) and also funding from the Narrowing the Gap group budget (£11,000).

2.4 PB on the Broadleas

Background information

The Broadleas estate was chosen for this pilot due to its current ranking in the Indices of Multiple deprivation but also because of its low levels of community engagement. It was hoped that this process could encourage the local residents to get involved in making a difference to their surroundings.

2.5 PB process in the Broadleas Estate

The initial door-to-door contact led to twelve bids coming forward for consideration, some were not applicable and were passed onto the relevant departments. All of the rest were invited on the voting day to present their ideas and vote on the others.

2.6 Partner Input

The methodology behind the input was to use the Broadleas Improvement Group to act as the conduit for partner engagement. As the meeting was every six weeks this allowed for feedback and action to move the projects forward. The nature of all of the projects

that came forward were in line with the BIG Action Plan and were addressing the needs previously identified through the analysis of the local statistics.

2.7 Community Input

Throughout the process the local community were given the opportunity to learn more about the way a project needs to be delivered through group sessions with partner agencies. This gave the local people the chance to ask questions and make sure that the bids they presented had the best chance in being funded. This led on directly to the decision day where the community was given the opportunity to vote on the projects on which ones would be the most effective in the community.

2.8 This process led to four projects being funded:

2.9 Blue Bell wood

Bordering a large part of the estate is a piece of natural woodland that has been fly-tipped on and was in a state of disrepair. The proposal that came forward from some concerned residents, with the support of the Friends of Bramley Fall Woods, was to cover the costs of some skips and other clearance materials to make improvements to the area. This scheme has been supported and led by BTCV, who engaged with a range of people, some brought along by BTCV from their 'Wednesday Group' who are adults with learning difficulties, and some from the community of the Broadleas. The events formed part of 'The Big Tidy up' which is led by Keep Britain Tidy and ENCAMS. One event was held in October half term and two more are planned for the Easter Break. Additional match funding was brought in through BTCV to allow more people to be involved. Support was also given by Connaught's and the local Neighbourhood Wardens. Works on the area have included clearance of fly-tipping and a general tidy of the area to make it a more welcoming.

2.10 Young Persons Steering group – Youth Inclusion Project (YIP) garden improvements

The Youth Steering Group, made up of young people from the Broadleas estate, for the YIP centre came forward with an application to make improvements on the rear of the centre site to allow it to be used more effectively by both the young people and the wider community. The rear of the building did have a chess board, but this was the only real activity the young people could play with. The new plans include the installation of an Owl shaped BBQ, a spider shaped table & chairs and a bespoke handrail designed by the young people. The monies provided by the PB scheme were used as match funding to a Youth Capital grant and Groundwork Leeds' Project Support Funding to deliver a £30,000 improvement. Works are commencing onsite and will be completed by the end of March 2009. The initiation and support work for of this project was carried out by Groundwork Leeds' Community Coordinator.

2.11 Creation of a kids area - land between Broadlea Road and Terrace.

A group of residents came forward with a proposal to improve the land at the rear of their properties to create a space to stop the children playing in the street. The initial ideas were to create a children's park, but after further discussion with the group around the costs associated with this idea it was scaled down. The site has been fly-tipped on for a number of years and before any real improvements could take place the site would have to be fully excavated. The future development of the site can only be considered after this initial clearance is done. Match funding was found to cover the costs of the clearance from the Inner West Area Panel (West North West Homes Leeds). It is hoped that once the site is cleared further funding can be sourced to deliver a site that is useful

to all. The future plans would be led by Groundwork Leeds and WNWHL with the full involvement of the local community.

2.12 Broadlea Hill Roundabout

For some time there have been issues around cars and motorbikes cutting across the roundabout, leaving the area looking un-maintained and the residents feel it is an eyesore. The Broadlea TARA came forward with a project that would make improvements to the roundabout on Broadlea Hill by restricting access for both cars and motorcycles. The roundabout is one of the first things you see of the estate so therefore can give a bad impression of the estate if it is covered in tyre tracks and generally looking untidy. Fencing of the area would improve the aesthetics of the area creating a more welcoming entrance to the estate, whilst also improving the overall road safety at the junctions and deterring cars and motorbikes cutting across.

3.0 Overall achievements

The initial proposals for the project were to ultimately drive forward the community to be more engaged and conscious of their surroundings. This pilot project has funded four schemes that would not have been funded in such a short timescales without this pilot. The match funding that has been brought in also would not have been available without this partnership approach. The support given to specific members of the community have allowed them to attend and contribute to tenants and residents meetings and given them the confidence to voice their feelings on their community. The initial success criterion is set in line with the Narrowing the Gap Group's objectives and each has been achieved in some part throughout this pilot.

3.1 *To build the capacity and confidence of local residents in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the city to take action to improve their neighbourhood*

The Broadleas was chosen as a reflective 'deprived' estate due to its current IMD status and ongoing issues. The delivery of the projects identified by the local residents has resulted in the engagement with both existing members of the group and new members who have joined the residents group as a result of the pilot work. The nature of the projects will have a direct impact on the local community due to their scope and location. The real test for the pilot will be in the future when all of the schemes are imbedded, as hopefully the residents involved will still have the interest and drive to be involved in the residents group. The BIG group will work to support the residents as one of its action on the action plan and this will hopefully highlight support required in the future.

3.2 *To contribute to mixed communities objectives*

The Broadleas estate has low levels of BME communities, the members they have are of mixed background with individual families having specific needs. That said the numbers of people from BME groups are increasing and if a scheme was delivered in the future on the Broadleas a different approach maybe required. The door-to-door approach did allow everyone on the estate to discuss the scheme but in the future this may have to be modified to have a greater impact.

3.3 *To test the PB approach in different contexts*

Working closely with the officers in South Leeds Area Management Team, the comparison of the two different schemes will hopefully facilitate a more effective strategy for future schemes. Each approach has had its challenges and successes but on the whole they have both been successful. On the whole the main lesson to be learnt is around choosing the most effective estate in order to make the most impact. The two areas tested in the pilot scheme were at either ends of the deprivation scale and showed

that a level of engagement is required to have an effective number of people attending the event.

3.4 To build on existing neighbourhood working

The Broadleas Improvement Group (BIG) has been running for the last 3 years coordinating work between the Police, WNWHL, YIP and various other partners. This pilot has run in parallel to this with support given from the other agencies. Hopefully this additional close working on these projects has built stronger relationships with partners to facilitate greater joint working practices.

3.5 To raise awareness about public service budgeting

The nature of the projects that have come forward have highlighted the issues that are important locally. This scheme also gave the opportunity to discuss each of the projects in detail with residents; this allowed them to ask questions about budgeting and how funds are allocated and the associated processes. This aspect of the pilot could potentially be enhanced in future schemes to raise the issues associated with the current economic climate.

4.0 Process

The process that West Leeds chose was to allow the community to deliver the projects themselves rather than to open the bidding to agencies to fund their choice of work. Even though each group that received funding was supported by a partner agency, it was the partner agencies that delivered most of the delivery of the projects with support from the Inner West Area Management Team. This obviously has resource and capacity implications which have had to be taken into account in the programming of the projects. On the whole the projects have been delivered to the specifications requested and will hopefully have the impact that was initially anticipated. This said if another scheme was to be developed there would be a number of lessons that should be learnt from the experience. These are:

- 1) The community chosen to be involved in the scheme needs to have some level of engagement with agencies to maximise the turn out for potential projects but also to make sure that projects are delivered to the correct specification.
- 2) Partner agencies should take more of a lead in the delivery of the projects, this maybe through taking on the actual delivery of the projects

Areas being considered where community engagement is an issue should consider building in an element of community development outside of the scheme. The method tried in South Leeds focused more on the 'service' being delivered rather than the community leading on the scheme. In many ways this was timelier as the timescales of delivery were shorter and outputs achieved quicker.

That said the real benefit for the process should be around the improvements to the community engagement on the estate. At the time of the process the local PCSO was also working hard to make a significant improvement to the TARA numbers. The combination of the two different approaches has led to a larger number of residents attending meetings and subsequently a range of new activities have been delivered and more are planned.

5.0 2009-10 proposals

When considering PB at Area Committee for 2009-10 this review should be considered before a specific estate or ward is chosen for the next scheme. Without careful consideration an estate could be chosen that will not maximise on the full benefits.

Another important aspect is a local venue that can host the preliminary events but also the decision day. This will hopefully facilitate a higher number of attendees from the community and therefore a more balanced view of the estates needs. The nature of these events and the number of people lend themselves to the use of a community centre or village hall.

Partner involvement is key to the successful delivery of these projects. For this reason areas should be chosen that can be worked on by the majority of partner agencies.

Considerations for new estates:

- Is there an existing community group?
- Is there a venue in the locality that would be available to host the events?
- Is the identified estate a high priority for partner agencies to work in?
- Confirm that an appropriate level of funding is available to spend specifically on the estate chosen.

6.0 Implications For Council Policy and Governance

Participatory Budgeting model would address some of the issues targeted as part of the Narrowing the Gap agenda. And the community engagement activities associated with the work are a part of the new delegated functions of the Area Committees.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The successes of the pilot scheme are in some ways difficult to assess at this time as the projects that have been funded are capital improvements and even though they will be onsite and working in the short term, their benefits may not be seen for another 6 months. On the whole there are positives to come out of the process which can be taken into account when setting up of future schemes of a similar nature. The lessons learnt are mostly around the choice of an appropriate estate, assuming this is looked at in detail it is felt that future schemes can make a difference to local people.

8.0 Recommendations

- 8.1 The Inner West Area Committee Members are invited to:

- note the contents of the report and comment on any aspect of the matters raised.

References

1. www.peopleandparticipation.net

Background Papers

None

Report of the West North West Leeds Area Manager

Inner West Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Broadleas Neighbourhood Improvement Priority Area – 12 Month Review

Electoral Wards Affected: Bramley & Stanningley

☐

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

☐

Community Cohesion

☐

Narrowing the Gap

☐

Council
Function

☐

Delegated Executive
Function available for
Call In

X

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

☐

Executive Summary

This report gives an overview of the progress, successes and challenges currently facing the Broadleas estate in Bramley Ward.

Taking into account the Indices of Multiple Deprivation statistics and partners local agencies statistics the main challenges for the future working practises on the estate include:

- Education
- Crime
- Living Environment

The Inner West Area Committee are asked to note the report and support the actions suggested in forwarding the future working methods.

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to brief Members on the progress, achievements and challenges currently facing the Broadleas estate and provide an overview of the partnership working approach that is currently in operation.

2.0 Background information

2.1 Indices of Multiple Deprivation

The Broadleas estate was been identified as a priority area in which to deliver Neighbourhood Improvement Priority Plans, this was due to issues at the time which ranked it in the top 7% of deprived Super Output Areas (SOA) in England and Wales. It was rated as 2297th out of about 32,482 localities, based on the 2004 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The estate currently ranks at 3032 based in the 2007 IMD figures. This highlights an improvement of 735 places, ranking this area at 3032, in the bottom 9.3%. Within the context of the other three LAMP areas where the Wythers is ranked in the bottom 4% nationally, the Fairfields in the bottom 3.8% nationally and New Wortley in the bottom 3.3% nationally, the Broadleas area is improving and its ranking of 9.3% nationally helping to narrow the gap. However there are still three domains whose individual rankings are low and need attention.

2.2 The three domains needing attention are Education, Crime and the Living Environment. The figures show that across all of the areas the theme is the same, attention needs to be given to these three concerns.

2.3 Previous and Recent Neighbourhood Funding

The estate was included as part of the SRB5 programme along with the neighbouring Ganners estate. This led to a programme of £70,000 of environmental works being delivered on the Broadleas.

2.4 Since then the estate has had investment from Leeds West Homes and subsequently West North West Homes Leeds, for the windows, doors and other internal improvements as part of the Decent Homes programme.

2.5 In recent months the estate has been taking part in a citywide pilot scheme around the allocation of funding to projects. Participatory Budgeting (PB) enabled four projects to be funded, with projects submitted and voted on by the community. Funding for the PB pilot was allocated from the Inner West Area Committee Well-being funds and funds from the Narrowing the Gap Group.

3. Partner Input

The Broadleas Improvement Group (BIG), co-ordinated by the WNW Area Management Team, has been running for the last three years looking at strategic working on the estate, bringing together partners such as:

- WNWHL
- BARCA Leeds
- Groundwork
- West Yorkshire Police
- Area Management Team

The meetings are Chaired by Area Management and minutes taken by West North West Homes Leeds. The meetings are focused on the delivery of actions that are highlighted both from the indicators of deprivation but also partner statistics that indicate more up to date trends.

4.0 Current initiatives

Over the last twelve months the majority of partners' efforts and resources have focused on the development and delivery of the PB pilot. Alongside this, a renew and update of the action plan is currently underway.

4.1 PB support and facilitation

The PB pilot scheme has been the focus of much of the group discussions recently. As the main support group for the project the achievements of the pilot will reflect on the estate and hopefully facilitate further improvements through the joint working, community engagement and development. Members of the group acted as mentors for the residents that came forward with projects, this allowed development and building of relationships between agencies and the local community.

4.2 Summer Fayre

This event has been held for a number of years prior to the establishment of BIG. However the additional support and resources of partners has enabled the promotion and attendance to be significantly higher. The day was a great success and the increased number of people becoming aware of the activities being developed in the estate was a great success. Hopefully the number of residents involved in future projects will increase as a result of this.

4.3 Partner focus on Community Safety

The crime figures for the estate do reflect the domain in the IMD 2007; this has led to increased engagement with the community by the local PCSO's. The additional patrols and face-to-face contact has improved both the relationship with the local people but also increased the number of people attending the residents meetings through an increased feeling of confidence.

4.4 Support of the Tenants And Residents Association (TARA)

Over the last few years the numbers of local residents attending this group have been low, and increasing the number of people being involved has been difficult. The recent engagement and development work through the PB project and the work carried out by the Police to try and improve the levels of reporting of crime in the area has had a significant impact on the level of attendees at the residents group meeting. The increase in numbers needs to be maintained to make sure the voice of this community is heard through the TARA and subsequently at the Bramley Housing forum.

4.5 Next Steps

Future work will focus on:

Crime

As can be seen from the figure of the last 24 months there is high levels of all six main indicators (Burglary dwelling, Vehicle Crime, Serious Violent Crime, Violent Crime, Anti-social Behaviour and Criminal Damage). All figures are higher than the Divisional, District and West Yorkshire averages. This supports the IMD stats which shows the estates being in the top 3.4%, 1.41% and 2.82% respectively. These figures need to be addressed as they will obviously be influencing other indicators and keeping the estate in its current position in the rankings. Projects could include the likes of Smartwater,

increased safety of homes through CASAC or a specific multi-agency action day. All of these will be looked at thought he BIG Action plan to identify which type of project would be most effective and what funding could be available.

Community engagement

The nature of the Broadleas estate means that not all of the community are fully represented at the TARA meetings. Looking at the language needs on the estate there are a number of needs but mostly they are individual families rather than groups of people. There is not any significant minority population on the estate but the statistics need to be monitored as if there is an increase in the BME population then appropriate methods will need to be taken to engage with them effectively.

Education deprivation

The Youth Inc Centre is currently working with 50 local young people who are at risk of exclusion. The alternative curriculum they offer along with the support to all local young people is allowing them to appreciate their surroundings and how their actions affect the community as a whole. This work will hopefully addresses some of the anti-social behaviour problems in the area. That said support needs to be increased, the indicators show a very high need to impact on the education deprivation.

5.0 Main Issues

- 5.1 From an SOA perspective the Broadleas estate covers parts of three Lower level SOA's. This means that the whole area needs to be taken into account rather than just the one SOA that covers the heart of the estate. The neighbouring estate that partly cover the Broadleas are the Ganners & St Catherines and the Landeers. Each of them are different in both appearance and demographic but as can be seen from the IMD data the issues are very similar.

5.2 Broadleas – SOA 046A

SOA - 046A	2004		2007		
Indicator	Ranking	%	Ranking	%	Variance
IMD	2297	7.07	3032	9.33	735
Health	3271	10.07	3223	9.92	-48
Education	182	0.56	179	0.55	-3
Crime	1740	5.36	1106	3.40	-634
Living Environment	1016	3.13	2618	8.06	1602

The most significant domain for the Broadleas is education which is ranking in the bottom 0.5% nationally. This element of the action plan will have to be enhanced to have an impact in the future. Through links with the local primary school and the Jobs & Skills Team projects will be developed and supported by BIG. Partnership working with Youth INC will hopefully allow for some additional working with young people to increase the levels of training etc.

5.3 St. Catherine's – SOA 046C

SOA - 046C	2004		2007		
Indicator	Ranking	%	Ranking	%	Variance
IMD	2531	7.79	1712	5.27	-819
Education	1299	4.00	672	2.07	-627
Crime	1149	3.54	457	1.41	-692

Living Environment	891	2.74	936	2.88	45
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The significant domain in this area is crime which is ranked in the top 1.41% nationally. This shows that crime has to be addressed in the action plan as the main priority for this part of the estate. With the Police and Community Together (PACT) meetings in the area focusing on the three crime related issues, hopefully any additional projects that are delivered through BIG will support and facilitate improvements to these actions.

5.4 Landseers – SOA

SOA - 046D	2004		2007		
Indicator	Ranking	%	Ranking	%	Variance
IMD	2617	8.06	2724	8.39	107
Education	1120	3.45	1061	3.27	-59
Crime	1436	4.42	917	2.82	-519
Living Environment	266	0.82	224	0.69	-42

The Landseers estate's main issues are around the living environment. This is a complicated domain that takes in a wide range of criteria. The estate has had Decent Homes funding to improve the windows doors and roofs. Investigations are needed to the specific criteria that would need improvement, this could then influence the way the action plan is led on this action.

5.5 As can be seen from the variance figures, on the whole the three areas have all got worse with respect to Education, Crime and the Living Environment. This is irrespective to the improvements to the IMD rankings in two of the three estates. To reflect these priorities the action plan is currently being re-developed and will reflect these indicators.

5.6 Alongside this, any issues relating to the environment, such as cleanliness, will be addressed through this partnership.

6.0 2009-10 proposals

To redevelop the action plan with smart actions specific to the indicators requiring attention, these will be crime, educational attainment and community development.

7.0 Implications For Council Policy and Governance

The Broadleas LAMP is part of the Narrowing the Gap agenda. And the community engagement activities associated with the work are a part of the new delegated functions of the Area Committees.

8.0 Conclusions

8.1 By focusing on the key issues on this estate it is hoped that through the sustainability of partnership working practices, maximising resources and opportunities that this area will continue to see improvements that lift it out of the 10% most deprived estates nationally.

9.0 Recommendations

9.1 The Inner West Area Committee Members are invited to:

- a) Note the contents of the report and comment on any aspect of the matters raised
- b) Support the continuation of the LAMP group and directly support the actions raised in it

Background Papers

None



Originator: Maria Lipzith

Tel: (0113) 247 4353

Report of the Chief Democratic Services Officer

West Inner Area Committee

Date: 9th April 2009

Subject: Dates, Times and Venues of Area Committee Meetings 2009/10

Electoral Wards Affected:

Armley

Bramley & Stanningley

☐

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

☐

Community Cohesion

☐

Narrowing the Gap

☐

Council
Function

X

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

☐

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

☐

Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to request Members to give consideration to agreeing the dates and times of their meetings for the 2009/10 municipal year which commences in May 2009.

1.0 Background Information

- 1.1 The Area Committee Procedure Rules stipulate that there shall be at least six ordinary meetings of each Area Committee in each municipal year (May to April).
- 1.2 The Procedure Rules also state that each Committee will agree its schedule of meetings for the year either at the last meeting in the current municipal year (i.e. tonight) or at its first meeting in the new municipal year. In order to appear in the Council's official Diary for 2009/10, the dates and times of your meetings need to be approved tonight.

2.0 Options

2.1 The options are:-

- To approve the list of dates and times provisionally agreed with the West North West Area Manager based on the existing pattern;
- To consider other alternative dates;

- To continue to meet either at 9.00 a.m. or 5.00 p.m. or to consider alternative times;
- To continue to alternate between suitable venues within the two West Inner wards or to seek some other venues.

3.0 Meeting Dates

- 3.1 The following provisional dates have been agreed in consultation with the WNW Area Manager. They follow roughly the same pattern as last year, i.e. Thursday's in June, September, October, December, February and April :-

25th June 2009, *17th September 2009, *22nd October 2009, *10th December 2009, 11th February 2010 and 8th April 2010.

(*these dates clash with the North West (Inner) Area Committee which convenes on the same day. This may cause a problem for Officers presenting reports as they may be expected to attend both the West (Inner) and North West (Inner) Area Committee meetings).

The problems we have at the moment with these Area Committee meetings is that Plans Panels tend to meet on Thursdays therefore the dates for Area Committee meetings to convene are limited as there are Members who are either on Plans Panel (West) or Plans Panel (City Centre).

- 3.2 A similar pattern of meetings is being suggested in respect of the other 9 Area Committees, so that for co-ordination purposes, all Area Committees are meeting in the same basic cycle and months. Whilst Members have discretion as to which actual dates they wish to meet, they are requested to take into consideration that any proposed substantial change to the cycle, e.g. changing months rather than dates within the suggested months, will cause disruption and lead to co-ordination problems between the Area Committees.

4.0 Meeting Days and Times

- 4.1 Currently the West (Inner) Area Committee meets on Thursdays at either 9.00 a.m. or 5.00 p.m. and the above suggested dates reflect this pattern. Due to clashes in meetings would Members perhaps consider meeting on another day such as Wednesdays instead of Thursdays?
- 4.2 Meeting on set days and times has the advantage of certainty and regularity, which assists people to plan their schedules. The downside might be that it could serve to exclude certain people, for instance, who have other regular commitments on that particular day or who might prefer either a morning or afternoon meeting or a meeting immediately after normal work hours.
- 4.3 For these reasons, some Area Committees have chosen to vary their meeting days and times, alternating between different weekdays and holding daytime and evening meetings alternately. Others, however, have chosen a regular pattern similar to this Committee's existing arrangements – it really is a matter for Members to decide.

5.0 Meeting Venues

- 5.1 Currently the Committee alternates venues between the two West Inner Wards.
- 5.2 If the Committee were minded to request the officers to explore possible alternative venues, then the considerations Members and officers would have to taken into account are matters such as cost, accessibility – particularly for people with disabilities – and the facilities available at the venue, e.g. IT facilities for presentations etc.
- 5.3 From time to time, Members suggest moving meetings back to Civic Hall, Leeds. The meeting facilities might arguably be better in some instances, and the venue possibly more convenient for Members, and possibly also the public, as Leeds is the hub of the public transport system. However, Members are reminded of the stated role of Area Committees, as set out in Paragraph 2.1 the Area Committee Procedure Rules :-
- Act as a focal point for community involvement;
 - Take locally based decisions that deal with local issues;
 - Provide for accountability at local level;
 - Help Elected Members to listen to and represent their communities;
 - Help Elected Members to understand the specific needs of the community in their area;
 - Promote community engagement in the democratic process;
 - Promote working relationships with District Partnerships and Parish and Town Councils.

These aims and this role is unlikely to be enhanced by holding meetings at the centre, and rather than move meetings to Civic Hall, Members might wish to look again at other ways of publicizing meetings and encouraging greater community engagement.

Another option might be to alternate meetings between the centre and local venues.

6.0 Recommendation

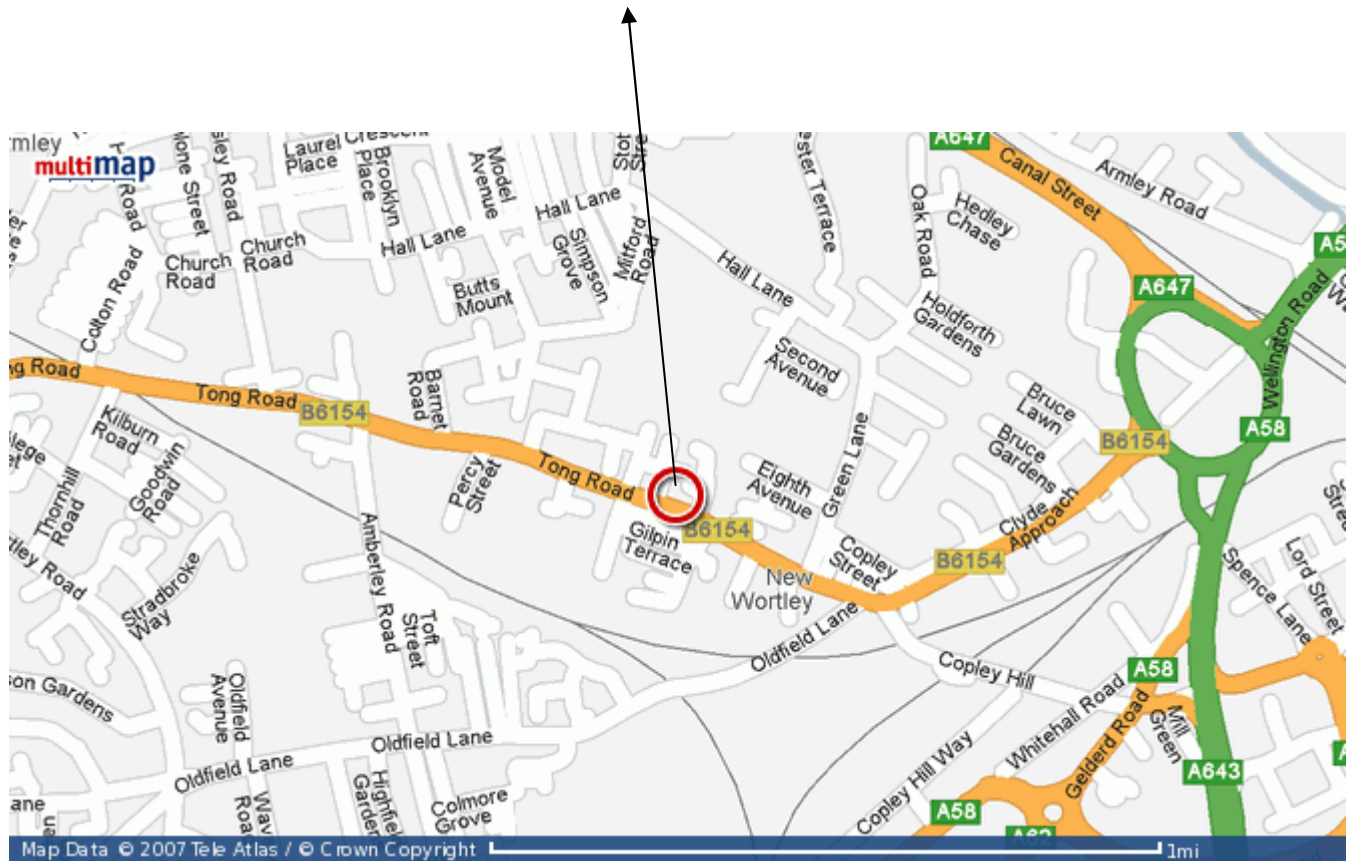
- 6.1 Members are requested to consider the options and to agree their meeting dates and times for 2009/10 in order that they may be included in the Council's official diary for 2009/10. Meeting venues can if necessary be agreed at a later date, or left for the officers to sort out, taking into account Members' views, although a clear indication of Members' wishes in this regard would be helpful.

Background documents

Area Committee Procedure Rules

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New Wortley Community Centre, 40 Tong Road, Leeds LS12 1LZ



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